

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
OFFICERS, BOARDS
and
COMMITTEES
of the
TOWN OF MERRIMAC
MASSACHUSETTS

For the Year Ending December 31, 2016



**IN MEMORY OF THOSE
WHO HAVE HELD PUBLIC OFFICE**

**In the
TOWN OF MERRIMAC**



James Flynn
Chief of Police

Brian Peavey
Fire Chief/Police Department

Clifton Judson, Jr.
Fire Department

Altha Ottman
Housing Authority

Joyce Gariepy
Council on Aging

Warren Dixon
Sweetsir School

Janet Gilchrist
Merrimac Couplings

Lana Scully
Finance Committee

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DIRECTORY OF ELECTED OFFICERS

Moderator – One Year

Robert Bender Term Expires 2017

Board of Selectmen – Three Years

Hal Lloyd, Chairman Term Expires 2019

W. Earl Baumgardner Term Expires 2017

Andrew D. Connor Term Expires 2018

Board of Assessors – Three Years

Louise Lingerman Term Expires 2019

William Pollman Term Expires 2017

Edward R. Davis, Chairman Term Expires 2018

Planning Board – Five Years

Dennis Brodie Term Expires 2021

John Thomas Term Expires 2017

Ronald Barnes Term Expires 2018

Sandy Venner, Chairperson Term Expires 2019

Karol Flannery Term Expires 2020

Patricia True, Secretary

Constables – Three Years

Arthur Evans Term Expires 2019

Keith Pollman Term Expires 2019

Town Clerk – Three Years

Gwendolyn Lay Sabbagh Term Expires 2019

Board of Health – Three Years

Jason D. Sargent, Chairperson Term Expires 2019

Karen Gray Term Expires 2017

Harold Lloyd Term Expires 2018

School Committee – Three Years

Joanna Blanchard Term Expires 2019

Brian Page Term Expires 2017

Wayne Adams Term Expires 2018

Library Trustees – Three Years

Jeffrey W. Hoyt	Term Expires 2019
Susan Kern	Term Expires 2019
Yvonne Cosgrove	Term Expires 2017
Linda Getz	Term Expires 2017
Susan M. Coburn	Term Expires 2018
Jennifer Brown	Term Expires 2018

Municipal Light Commissioners – Three Years

Larry Fisher	Term Expires 2019
Norman R. Denault	Term Expires 2017
Paula Hamel (appointed 7/2016)	Term Expires 2018

Cemetery Trustees – Three Years

Tom Barry	Term Expires 2019
Sandra Brown	Term Expires 2017
Patricia Casey	Term Expires 2018

Merrimac Housing Authority – Five Years

C. Shirley Jones	Term Expires 2021
Candie Benjamin	Term Expires 2017
Stephen P. True, Vice Treasurer	Term Expires 2018
Henry A. Beadoin	Term Expires 2019
Richard Emery, State Appointee	Term Expires 2021

DIRECTORY OF APPOINTED OFFICERS

Finance Committee

Richard LeSavoy, Co-Chairman
Christine Berube
Ann Crowell
Stuart Egenberg

Paula Hamel
Lana Scully (deceased)
James Archibald
Mike Marden

Board of Appeals

Arthur Amirault
Gordon Broz, Alternate
Ronald Danduran
Kathleen Marshall, Secretary

Edward Mills
Joshua Jackson, Vice Chair
Ellen Janelli

Conservation Commission

Robert Prokop, Chairman
Jon Pearson
Arthur Yarranton
Mary Hess

Dennis Hogan
Janet Terry
Jay Smith, Agent
Gregory Hochmuth

Building Inspector

Robert Sinibaldi

Local Inspector

Denis Nadeau

Plumbing & Gas Inspector

Ronald Caruso

Wiring Inspector

William Nutter

Department of Public Works

Robert Sinibaldi

Highway Department

Tom Barry, Foreman

Fire Department

Ralph Spencer, Chief

Board of Registrars

Betty Eliot Gwendolyn Lay Rebekah Reynolds

Town Counsel

Ashod N. Amirian

Town Accountant

Anne O. Jim

Finance Director & Treasurer

Carol A. McLeod

Tax Collector

Geraldine A. Gozycki

Selectmen's Executive Assistant

Jennifer Penney

Cable Access Director

Carol Traynor

Rent Control Board

Arthur Evans Harold Lloyd Sandy Venner

Animal Care & Control Officer

Lisa Young

Cultural Council

Gillian Hosman

Carole Sokolowski

Laura Champion

Aysim Dalmau

Eleanor Hope McCarthy

Julia Bethmann

Christian Corkery

Richard Olsen

Veteran's Agent

Kevin Hunt

Historical Commission

Jeffrey W. Hoyt, Chairman Carl Walden Yvonne D. Cosgrove

Council on Aging

Laura Dillingham-Mailman, Director

Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello, Chairperson

Candie Benjamin

Nancy Bachelder, Food Pantry Coordinator

David Dutton

Natalie Christie, Emeritus

Dorothy Lumsden

James Murphy

David Vance

Betty Elliot

Lucy St. Pierre

Maryann Mikson

Emergency Management Director

Ralph W. Spencer, Chief

Open Space Committee

Carrie Rennie, Chair Mal Briggie Sandra Venner

Parks and Recreation

Harold Lloyd
Raymond Marquis

Robert Smith
Todd Durocher

Town Nurse

Charlotte Eileen Stepanian

Capital Planning Committee

Ricky J. Pinciario, Chairman
Sandra Venner
W. Earl Baumgardner, Selectmen's Rep.

Richard LeSavoy, Finance Committee Rep.
Janet Bruno

Affordable Housing Board of Trustees

Sandra Venner, Chairperson
Hal Lloyd, Selectman
Phillip Parry
Josh Jackson

Martha Crook
Laura Dillingham-Mailman
Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello

Playground Committee

Laura Costigan
Rachel Judkins
Katie Moskal
Erica Tirrell

Kathleen Philp
Danielle Grimes
Tara Murphy
Andrea Zimmern

The Board of Selectmen would like to thank all those who have served the town this past year,
especially the ones who have retired or moved on.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC BOARD OF SELECTMEN

**For the year ending 2016
Dear Residents of Merrimac,**

The principal and significant projects for the town were the continuation of the former Coastal Metals property cleanup and renewal effort, the Public Safety Complex Committee's proposal, the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) grant for low-income home assistance, and a grant process for treatment to solve continuing cyanobacteria blooms in Lake Attitash, and community host agreement with ATG Therapies.

A bid process led to the selection of North Shore Housing Community Development Coalition to be the developer of the project to bring an affordable housing project to the former Coastal Metals property. The town, through receipt of a substantial Brownfields Grant will accomplish the cleanup of the property and ultimately execute a sale of the property to North Shore HCDC and this will include the town owned property at 28 School St. Overall, the property development will consist of 30-35 residential units and necessary infrastructure.

The Public Safety Building Committee engaged a firm, HKT, to conduct and lead a study to determine the feasibility of construction of a new public safety complex to house the Police Dept., Fire Dept., and Department of Public Works. As of the fall town meeting, the result was a potential proposal to ask approval for a new facility on property located at 106 W. Main St. through a gift to the town. The proposal would keep the Fire Dept. at the current location though renovated and updated to meet the modern needs. This proposal was quoted as a \$22 million project, reduced from \$30 million as originally estimated. However, the committee asked to withdraw their proposal, feeling that the cost was still too much for the town to bear. Later, at the end of the year, the committee had begun to prepare a new proposal, pared down to \$15 million, primarily due to consideration of a different more affordable construction design for the DPW building.

The need of a new public safety complex is driven by the aged, dilapidated building currently in use, which has become difficult to maintain, along with recurring water infiltration, and mold issues, lack of space and facilities necessary to the conduct of contemporary fire, police, and dpw mission and duties. Additionally, the site lends itself to conditions that are environmentally unwise and potentially subject to citation by environmental agencies, and threat of significant fines. A new and more environmentally compatible facility has now become a real necessity.

Over the winter and spring of 2016, Merrimac joined with Amesbury to seek and apply for a CDBG Grant through a regional application process, that would solicit low income applicants to a project to assist eligible Merrimac and Amesbury home owners in making necessary and prudent upgrades and repairs to their homes that they would likely not be able to afford without financial assistance. The grant application was approved, and eligible residents have begun the process of having their homes evaluated and assessed for eligible projects. The Affordable Housing Board of Trustees was instrumental to bringing this grant to fruition.

Lake Attitash, as many may be already aware, has been plagued with an environmental and health issue that has been recurring, multiple times typically over the summer months, for over 20 years perhaps. The natural state of the lake with its slow water movement, slow to drain, and shape have combined with chemical content from runoff that has created conditions conducive to frequent high cyanobacteria content and blooms, rendering the water unsafe, a danger to pets, and possibly humans. The preferred solution, according to studies and analysis by experts consulted, is to treat the lake with a targeted alum treatment, which is calculated to bind the nitrogen rich sediment to the bottom of the lake, effective for an anticipated 20-year span. The Lake Attitash Association, the Merrimac Board of Selectmen, and the City of Amesbury have sought grant money and other funds from government agencies to offset the approximate \$600,000 cost of this one time treatment. The BOS and City of Amesbury have been in negotiations to agree to a logical split after necessary local match, and to achieve an agreement on a winter lake draw down level suitable to both parties as agreement is expected to be reached by winter 2017.

On October 3rd, the board signed and executed a community host agreement and issued a letter of non-opposition to a medical marijuana dispensary to be operated by ATG Therapies at 17 Broad St., a site located in an area previously zoned for this activity. The board, by negotiating and signing this agreement and letter of non-opposition, ensured that the town would derive significant revenue from this activity, as well as other operating concessions. Had the Board of Selectmen not negotiated and entered into this agreement, right of use would have allowed the dispensary, and the town would not be entitled to any negotiable considerations.

As has been the case for a long time, all departments have managed budgetary resources, accomplishing all goals within budgetary design and keeping within constraints of Prop 2 ½.

School budgets continue a trend of an ever-growing portion of overall town expenditure, with 2016 necessitating and approval of an override of approximately \$100,000.

We would like to thank the boards, committees, and commissions for their diligence and commitment to the town. With great appreciation, we would like to recognize the excellent effort of our town employees, completing another year of mission met and outstanding performance.

It has been a pleasure serving the residents of Merrimac.

Respectfully Submitted,

Merrimac Board of Selectmen

Harold Lloyd, Chairman

Andrew D. Connor

W. Earl Baumgardner

2016 REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC FIRE DEPARTMENT

To: The Honorable Board of Selectman &
The Citizens of the Town of Merrimac

The Fire Department has been busy this year with 816 calls and some very important training. We wish to thank Robert Cormier for their generous donations of a couple of homes slated for demo, one which was a live burn the other interior search and rescue.

Our Ambulance Service went to Advanced Life Support this past year which Deputy Greg Habgood received 2 awards for his efforts in his accomplishments in getting this done. It took approximately 2 years to complete.

We had 2 members attend and pass the Firefighter I, II recruit class Firefighters McGoldrick and Richards are now certified firefighters. Firefighter / EMT Zack Brickett is now in the class and will finish in March. This class is 2 nights a week and most weekends for 6 months and is attended on their own time. Congratulations to all. Better than half the department is FF I, II certified.

It has been a sad year for the department with the loss of Retired Chief Brian Peavey, Retired Deputy Chief Norman Armstrong, Firefighter / Mechanic Clifton Judson Sr. and our friend Retired Chief James Flynn. All will be greatly missed.

I was planning on retiring this past July and was asked by the Board of Selectman to please stay 2 more years which I agreed to do. I wish to thank them for their confidence in me.

To the Citizens of Merrimac thank you for all your support and all the kind words for all my staff.

To all the Firefighters, EMT's, Paramedics and Office Administration thank you all for everything you do to make this department run as well as it does and for taking care of our citizens each and every day.

Respectfully Submitted
Chief Ralph W Spencer



Eric M. Shears
Chief of Police

MERRIMAC POLICE DEPARTMENT

16 East Main Street
Merrimac, Massachusetts 01860

Tel: 978-346-8321
Fax: 978-346-0592



REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE 2016

To: The Honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of the Town of Merrimac, Massachusetts;

I am honored to serve as Merrimac's Chief of Police. The Merrimac Police Department is committed to providing quality police services to this community. I am very proud of my staff. They are well-trained, hard-working and dedicated to the citizens of Merrimac.

As our community continues to grow, we are facing many new challenges. We have outgrown our facility and it is in disrepair. The Board of Selectmen appointed a public safety building committee and hired an architectural firm to look at the building and make recommendations to the community. The Committee has recommended that we build a new police station and DPW on a donated piece of land off West Main Street. The Committee has also recommended a renovation of the existing Fire Station.

We are all made aware, every time we pick up a newspaper or turn on the news, that our country is continuing to face an opiate epidemic. Where perhaps in the past, we only heard of drug issues in larger cities, our officers respond on a regular basis to drug related incidents and other crimes involving men and women suffering from drug addiction.

Our proximity to Interstate 495 has heightened our involvement over the past years. Our call volume and the seriousness of the calls we are responding to has increased year after year. The men and women of this department are putting forth tremendous efforts to keep up with our increased workloads, many times, as the sole officer responding. This presents a risk to both the officer and our community. When looking at comparably sized communities, even those without a major highway running through, we are understaffed and will need to begin addressing this issue in future budget years. I am happy to report that we will be adding a patrolman's position in FY 2018.

It is important to take a moment to remember former members of the police and fire departments who passed away last year.

- Retired Police Chief James A. Flynn, Jr. passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by family and friends on Saturday, March 19, 2016 after a courageous battle with ALS. Chief Flynn faithfully served the Town of Merrimac for 37 years. He retired as Chief in 2011, a position he held for 28 years. A dedicated family man, mentor and friend too many of us in this community.
- Former Merrimac Police Officer and retired FBI Agent Daniel F. Sullivan passed away peacefully on March 14, 2016 after a short illness. Daniel was the son of former Merrimac Police Chief Alexander M. Sullivan. Prior to joining the FBI, Dan was a Merrimac Police Officer and an Officer with the Arizona Highway Patrol.
- Former Police Officer and Retired Fire Chief Brian W. Peavey, Sr. passed away on August 10, 2016. Brian was a Special Police Officer in Merrimac for 45 years. He was also a member of the Merrimac Fire Department for 38 years, retiring as Chief in 2000.
- Clifton Edward Judson, Jr., A longtime Merrimac resident and 25 year member of the Merrimac Fire Department, "Gramps" passed peacefully on Thursday, September 8, 2016.

Our thoughts and prayers remain with their family and friends. Although gone, you will not be forgotten.

We would like to thank our residents, the Board of Selectmen, the finance committee, capital planning and the entire staff at town hall for their continued support. We are also thankful for the public safety partnerships we enjoy with our Fire Department, Emergency Management, Department of Public Works and Light Department. Working together, we continue to provide for the safety and security of our “little” town.

It is truly a pleasure to serve as Police Chief in Merrimac. The men and women of the police department remain dedicated to our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric M. Shears
Chief of Police

Merrimac Police Department

2016

Eric M. Shears
Chief of Police

Stephen M. Ringuette
Retired August 2016

Jennifer Sforza
Administrative
Assistant

David J. Vance
Operations Sergeant

Patrolmen

Richard P. Holcroft
Patrolman

Stephen A. Ringuette
Patrolman

Jeffrey D. Boisvert
Patrolman

Robert F. Coppola
Patrolman

Reserve Officers

Michael R. McGrath
Reserve Officer

Mark E. Sayers
Reserve Officer

Stephen E. Beaulieu
Reserve Officer

Michael A. D'Angelo
Reserve Officer

Paul M. Hogg
Reserve Officer

Adam E. White
Reserve Officer

Michael Arachovites
Reserve Officer

Chris Maguire
Reserve Officer

David Rosquete
Reserve Officer

Police & Fire Signal Operators

Mark E. Sayers
Dispatch Supervisor

Kathy A. Spencer
Dispatcher

Jacob R. Wallace
Dispatcher

Katelyn E. Drago
Dispatcher

Part-Time Police & Fire Signal Operators

Tenley Goodwin
Reserve Dispatcher

A.J. Pesci
Reserve Dispatcher

Michael Arachovites
Reserve Dispatcher

David J. Rosquete
Reserve Dispatcher

Matthew McGoldrick
Reserve Dispatcher

James R. Stoner
Reserve Dispatcher

Tara Bernard
Reserve Dispatcher

Police Matrons

Kathy A. Spencer
Matron

Jennifer D. Marden
Matron

Katelyn E. Drago
Matron

Tenley Goodwin
Matron

Tara Bernard
Matron

2016 Calls by Dispatch Reason			
Intelligence	58	General Services	1294
Robbery	0	Welfare Check	77
Assault & Battery	1	Officer Wanted	451
B & E (Attempted)	6	Provide Escort	0
B&E Building	8	Prisoner Transport	7
B&E Motor Vehicle	5	Assist Citizen	298
Larceny / Personal Property	31	Building Check	2931
Larceny by Check	7	Message Delivery	50
Larceny of Motor Vehicle	4	Animal Incident (ACO)	226
Arson / Bombing	1	Assist Municipal Agencies	198
Kidnapping (Parental)	1	Utility Alarm / Emergency	153
Assault (Threats / No Battery)	2	Medical Emergency	397
Forgery & Counterfeiting	0	Mental Health Emergency	27
Stalking	1	Intoxicated Person	2
Vandalism Complaint	21	FIRE ALARM - Street Box	13
Weapons Violation	0	FIRE ALARM - Brush Fire	9
Sex Offenses	0	FIRE ALARM - Car Fire	10
Drug Law Violations	4	FIRE ALARM - Structure Fire	4
Intoxicated Driver Complaint	3	FIRE ALARM - Investigation	129
Disorderly Conduct	2	FIRE ALARM - Mutual Aid	48
209A Violation	8	Burglar Alarm	108
209A Order Received	9	Confer with other PD	2
Officer Investigation	125	Assist Other Police Department	190
Warrant Arrest	15	Motor Vehicle Stop	1211
Larceny of a Bicycle	2	Motor Vehicle Listing	47
General Offenses	52	Parking Violation	74
Trespass Complaint	11	RADAR Assignment	548
Civil Complaint	34	Motor Vehicle Complaint (Speed)	67
Juvenile Offense	5	Motor Vehicle Accidents	121
Town Bylaw Violation	2	Traffic Control	55
Missing Person	7	Abandoned MV Complaint	5
Lost / Found Property	48	Disabled MV Complaint	107
Disturbance (General)	29	Inter - Department Services	16
Domestic Disturbance	43	Court (On Duty)	39
Disturbance (Group)	8	911 Calls	72
Hazard / Youths in Street	63	Servicing Cruiser	589
Disturbance (Noise)	64	Radio Communications Maint.	2
Annoying Harassing Phone Calls	56	Pursuit (MV or Foot)	2
Suspicious Activity	191	Service of Legal Process	28
Boating Complaint	3		
ATV / Dirt bike Complaint	2		
		TOTAL	10537

ADULT ARRESTS

Male Arrests	34
Female Arrests	13

JUVENILE ARRESTS

Male Juvenile Arrests.....	0
Female Juvenile Arrests	0

PROTECTIVE CUSTODY

Male PC	1
Female PC	0

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT APPLICATIONS

Various Criminal Offenses	52
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TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

Total Motor Vehicle Stops.....	1211
Verbal Warnings	928
Written Warnings	82
Civil Citations	54
Criminal Complaints.....	66



MERRIMAC DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

Kevin Hunt
Director

Telephone: 978 388-8136

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MERRIMAC, MA 01860

What follows is the annual report from The Department of Veterans' Services.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER 115 BENEFITS:

This department was able to assist veterans or family members this past year under M.G.L. Chapter 115. This is emergency financial assistance provided to financially qualified veterans or their surviving spouses. Any money expended to these veterans under Chapter 115 is returned to the Town by the State at the rate of \$.75 to the dollar expended. In 2016, approximately \$75,500 was expended to eligible veterans and their families, of which \$56,250 is returned to the Town..

VETERANS DAY:

Thanks to the efforts of Commander Roger Clark, the members of Post 134 of the American Legion, and The Council On Aging, Veterans Day was commemorated on November 11, 2016 with sit-down meal and the spirit of patriotism.

MEMORIAL DAY FLAGS:

Again, thanks to the efforts of Commander Clark and the members of Post 134 of the American Legion, veterans' graves and memorials were appropriately decorated with American Flags before Memorial Day in 2016.

VA COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS:

This department continues to assist and secure various VA benefits -- service connected and non-service connected -- disability compensations and pensions. Last year, the Federal Department of Veterans' Affairs distributed nearly \$725,000 to Merrimac veterans and/or their surviving spouses as compensation or pension. The Veterans' Office assists veterans in applying for these benefits. The Town of Merrimac does not have to pay anything to receive these funds, much of which is spent within the Town.

VA HEALTH CARE:

This department assisted and secured various VA medical benefits for service and non-service connected veterans. These medical benefits included short and long-term medical treatments at the VA satellite Clinic in Haverhill and VA Hospitals in the surrounding area.

SOCIAL SECURITY :

This department continues to assist and refer veterans seeking benefits from Social Security.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Hunt
Director of Veterans' Services
Town of Merrimac

Robert Stanwood
Associate Director
Town of Merrimac

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
22 Main Street
West Newbury, MA 01985
Telephone (978) 363-2280
Fax (978) 363-1165

Dr. Jeffrey J. Mulqueen
Superintendent of Schools

Greg Labrecque
Business Manager

The Merrimac Annual Report of the School Department activities for FY16 has been developed by the Principal of the Frederick N. School, Helen R. Donaghue School, Pentucket Regional Middle School and Pentucket Regional High School on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools and the Pentucket Regional School Committee.

Joanna Blanchard, Chairwoman
Lisa O'Connor, Vice Chairman
Wayne Adams, Assistant Treasurer
Christine Reading, Secretary
John Willett
Douglas Gelina
Brian Page
Andy Murphy
Christopher Wile
Pentucket Regional School District
Pentucket Regional High School

MERRIMAC SCHOOLS

Annual Report Fiscal Year 2016-2017

Introduction:

It is an exciting time to represent the Pentucket Regional School District and the Merrimac Schools as we endeavor to provide a World Class education to the students of Merrimac, MA. The PRSD has become a state leader in innovation with the implementation of 9 Innovation Schools. The Merrimac Schools, a philosophical consolidation of the two schools in Merrimac while maintaining a two campus structure, has committed to the implementation of the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program in an effort to provide a transformative instructional program intended to prepare our students to successfully engage in an increasingly global community. Through the development of transdisciplinary units of inquiry, our commitment to the IB Learner Profile, and embedding concepts of global significance into our instruction, we aim to achieve the districts commitment to a world class education through the implementation of a truly world class instructional framework.

Demographic Information:

The Merrimac Schools, located across two campuses, provide a comprehensive education to students in Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 6. The F.N. Sweetsir School, located at 104 Church St, houses our PreK-Grade 2 programming and has a current enrollment of 211 students. The H.R. Donaghue School, located at 24 Union St, houses our Grade 3-Grade 6 programming and has a current enrollment of 252 students. The total student population of the Merrimac Schools is currently 463 students spread across the two campuses.

Innovation School, Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment

Innovation School:

As previously mentioned, the Merrimac Schools are an International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program Candidate School. We are approximately one year from formal authorization of our programming by the International Baccalaureate Organization. Throughout this year, we are developing working to satisfy the rigorous expectations of the IBO. This work is the product of the hard work and commitment of the staff, administration, and the district and will result in the Merrimac Schools becoming just the 4th IBPYP authorized school in the state of Massachusetts.

Curriculum:

- In Merrimac, our instructional core is delivered through our IBPYP Units of Inquiry. These units of inquiry are designed as “transdisciplinary” units that embed core instruction in Literacy, Science, and Social Studies into units that provide students with an opportunity to inquiry, construct meaning, and develop a deep and comprehensive understanding and are designed to foster skills of advocacy, innovation, entrepreneurship, empathy, and altruism. We accomplish this through a commitment to the conceptual ideals of the International Baccalaureate Organization and the districts focus on the development of Adaptive Leadership and Personal Meaning within our unit design. These units leverage the local and state frameworks as a foundation of learning while expanding the context of learning to the wider world. This focus on the wider world helps our students develop a global context for their learning that will allow them to develop an international mindedness to engage as a global citizen.

Instruction:

- As an IB candidate school, we aim to deliver our instruction through inquiry. Inquiry-based instructional design provides students with authentic learning experiences that allow them to ask questions, construct their own meaning, pursue the depths of their understanding, and apply their learning to complex assessment tasks that call for analysis, critical thinking, and application of knowledge.
- The English Language Arts are embedded within our units of inquiry and are delivered through a Readers’ and Writers’ workshop model of instruction. With a workshop framework for instructional delivery, teachers are able to provide targeted, differentiated literacy instruction that targets each student’s individual learning goal.
- Our students’ instructional experience is balanced through an array of single subject opportunities including Music, Fine

Arts, Physical Education, and Library Media. In addition, students in grades 4 – 6 are provided with an opportunity to learn instrumental music through the participation in the elementary school instrumental and band program.

Assessment:

- The foundation of our assessment system takes place daily in each classroom. Through formative and summative assessment practices, our teachers continually monitor the progress of their students as they pursue their individualized learning goals. As our teachers collect assessment data within our high-powered units of inquiry, they modify their instructional practices to target the specific learning goals of our students.
- As we look to improve our practices to transition our students to the Middle School, this year was the first time we provided the 6th grade with targeted assessments to help determine students prepared to pursue accelerated learning opportunities at the middle school. The assessment was administered on February 28th and will help staff, students and parents help determine their course selection for 7th grade.
- Over the past few years, our school has experienced almost annual changes to our state assessment system shifting from the MCAS to the PARCC. This year, we will shift again. This year, students will be taking the MCAS 2.0 which will marry aspects of the PARCC with aspects of the former MCAS assessment and embed new components as well. We continue to develop an understanding of these assessments and yearn to utilize the data to foster increased student performance. The most significant shift, this year, will require our 4th grade students to take the MCAS 2.0 on the computer through the Computer Based Test (CBT). This will present a unique challenge to both our students and our staff to adapt to this new test administration modality.

Community Involvement and Service

- The 2016 – 2017 School Year began with tremendous participation in our Merrimac Goes Back to School event. With over 400 attendees, we were able to share many of the great things going on in our community, our school, and our classrooms.
- Our PTO hosted our annual Harvest Festival, Sweetheart Dance, Breakfast with Santa, and other social events. Each of these events provides an accessible, family friendly atmosphere with a focus on developing a strong community within our schools.
- The Pentucket Education Foundation (PEF) continues to provide tremendous support to our schools through advocacy, fundraising, and a pro-active grant program to provide resources to the school that don't fit within the operating budget.
- Merrimac Schools were an active participant in the district's Istanbul Science partnership providing our students to engage in scientific discovery in partnership with a partner school of primary and middle school students from Istanbul Turkey.

In Merrimac, we are looking forward to building upon our successes this year as we move into the 2017-2018 school year. We are particularly looking forward to the excitement of becoming a fully authorized International Baccalaureate World School, introducing second language instruction for students beginning in grade 2, and fostering an environment where each student in our town can receive a World Class education within our small town community.

Sincerely,

Russell Marino, Principal

PENTUCKET REGIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL
Annual Report Fiscal Year 2015-2016
Demographic Information

The Pentucket Regional Middle School is located in the town of West Newbury, Massachusetts, and serves the students in grades 7 (223 students) and 8 (239 students) from West Newbury (107), Merrimac (150), and Groveland (172). The Middle School is located on the regional secondary campus and is the first regional experience students have outside their home community.

School Highlights from 2015-2016

- Early High School credit classes offered in ELA, Mathematics, Science and Innovation Schools
- Academic Schedule designed around student choice and elective courses
- Students benefit from music ensembles built into the school day
- Professional Walkthroughs continue to guide instructional design
- Grade 8 holds entire grade level completion ceremony to celebrate as one group
- PRMS using Twitter to communicate school information @PentucketMS
- Below is a summary of activities at PRMS that took place in the areas of curriculum instruction, assessment, and community service.

Curriculum

- Teachers use Pentucket Curriculum of technical knowledge, adaptive leadership skills, and personal meaning to accelerated student learning
- Accelerated Science, ELA, and Algebra offered to grade 8 students as elective classes for early high school credit
- Schedule designed with student elective and choice of courses as the priority
- Transition educator collaboration time aligned with the high school for grades 8+9
- All professional staff implement District Determined Measures (DDMs).
- Enriching extracurricular activities support student choice and ideas Instruction
- Innovation School expansion includes the middle school with 6 academies scheduled for 2015-2016 school year
- High School Department Chairs meet with middle school department teachers to align a curriculum for a grade 7-12 system of instruction
- Business Seminar, Sports Medicine I and Healthy Athlete offered as Innovation School pathway courses

Assessment

- Professional staff implement District Determined Measures (DDMs) using PRSD model of essential question, skills, and outcomes.
- Elective math assessment provided for grade 6 and grade 7 students to help families with accelerated math elective decision.
- PRMS administered the PARCC (PBT) test for ELA and Math (STE MCAS was administered to grade 8).

Community Service

- Organized food and clothing drives for local community organizations
- Organized blanket and cleaning supplies drive for local animal shelters
- Supported after school activities at district elementary schools
- Organized toy drive for Holiday season
- Organized supply drive for U.S. soldiers serving overseas

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth Kelley
Principal
PRMS

PENTUCKET REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
ANNUAL REPORT
Fiscal Year 2015-16

The 2015-2016 school year was productive at Pentucket Regional High School. Student enrollment was 718 and comprised of 147 from West Newbury, 274 from Groveland, 261 from Merrimac, and 36 school choice students.

Below is a summary of activities that took place in the areas of curriculum, instruction, assessment and other areas of interest.

Teachers continued to develop their course curriculum and worked to incorporate District Determined Measures of progress in the areas of Technical Academic Knowledge, Personal Meaning and Adaptive leadership skills in all of their classes. These elements come together into high powered units of instruction where students are required to apply what they have learned.

In addition to the 3 existing Innovation Academies, Safety/Public Service, Movement Science/Athletics, Arts Academy, we worked to develop and implement 3 new Innovation Academies. The new Academies include Business/Finance/Entrepreneurship, STEM and Music. Each Academy has a unique, integrated curriculum that allows students to individualize their education and study in greater depth. Significant work was invested to plan for expanded programming in each academy as evidenced by the choices and opportunities available in the 2016-17 student schedule.

Pentucket High School students continue to excel on state assessments with 97% of students scoring Advanced or Proficient in MCAS ELA, 94% of students scoring Advanced or Proficient in Biology and 88% of students scoring Advanced and Proficient in Math.

Expanded programming in the Summer Semester created opportunities for students to get caught up, study in greater depth or get ahead. More than nearly 200 students were enrolled in Visual Art, Social Studies, English and Public Safety courses.

Numerous students received awards for their sportsmanship, talent and hard work through musical and artistic competitions as well as athletics.

After submitting a successful Statement of Interest (SOI) the school district received an invitation by the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) into the Eligibility Phase. This is the preliminary phase of a potential future building project. The Eligibility Phase began in the spring and will span no longer than 270 days. We are making significant progress and look forward to the Feasibility study which follows the Eligibility Phase.

Respectfully submitted,
Jonathan P. Seymour

The October 1, 2015 Day School Enrollment:

	Boys	Girls
Grade 9	11	9
Grade 10	10	9
Grade 11	12	3
Grade 12	11	8
Total-		73
2016 Graduates -		19

The cost to Merrimac for the school year 2015-2016 was \$809,391.00.

Respectfully Yours,

Paul Tucker
Merrimac Representative

Maureen Lynch
Superintendent



WHITTIER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Charles LaBella
Chairperson School Committee

Maureen Lynch
Superintendent

115 Amesbury Line Road
Haverhill, MA 01830-1898
978-373-4101
Fax: 978-521-0260
www.whittiertech.org

October 13, 2016

ANNUAL OPERATIONAL REPORT

TO: The Honorable Board of Selectmen

FROM: Paul Tucker, Whittier Representative
Maureen Lynch, Superintendent

Whittier offers 22 vocational technical career areas designed to provide the necessary training and skills for further education or work force success.

Whittier's academic program is designed to offer students the fundamental skills through its core curriculum in English, Math, Science and Technology, Social Studies, World Languages, Physical Education/Health, and Elective subjects. Courses are aligned with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks in order to achieve success on the MCAS.

Courses are offered in a sequential format and are integrated with the vocational technical areas, wherever practicable and mutually beneficial. All academic courses offer advanced sections for students who desire to further their education. We offer honors courses in English, science, and math to lead toward advanced placement courses. Moreover, a Tech Prep program is offered to eleventh and twelfth grade students which parallels the College Prep program and provides students with the opportunity to earn college credit and/or advanced college placement.

Since all programs are open to both females and males, we encourage our students to explore and to specialize in non-stereotyped, non-traditional vocational-technical areas and to strive for the maximum realization of their goals and potential.

Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School is entering its forty third year. To date we have graduated 10,932 students from the day school.

The enrollment for the Evening School from Merrimac: 7

Whittier Tech: Workingonyou,future

Honorable Board of Selectmen October 13, 2016

MERRIMAC GRADUATES

Allison Arnette	Katelin McSherry
Brandon Barlow	Nathaniel Melone
Alyssa Bartula	Kyle Messier
Austin Bernard	Hallie Milne
Gabrielle Bilodeau	Alyssa Mostyn
Cannon Chelmo	Derek Moynihan
Madeline Corkery	Colleen Mulholland
Hannah Cousins	Nasrin Musa
Michael D’Orsini	Jennifer Nelson
Jack Drelick	Madelyn Nelson
Tucker Dumas	Kenneth Niven
Gary Dwyer	Megan O’Connor
Sean Flannery	Elizabeth Osborne
Taylor Garrant	Gregory Parachojuk
Sarah Gaudet	Justin Peavey
David Greene	Emily Queenan
Kiernan Haley	Benjamin Quinn
Zoe Hasham	Julia Recine
Brianna Heaphy	John Reinhold
Jillian Hegarty	Casey Saitow
Molly Hogan	Kristina Sanborn
Jon Holewinski	Eric Sargent
Ethan Hotain	Jacklyn Satkus
Meghan Jones	Jacob Sevigny
Lindsey Karalias	Victoria Soucy
Tiffany Kim	Harrison Swartz
Albert Lamar	Emily Teague
Kyle Lingerma	Benjamin Thornton
Garrett Lischke	Bethany Weinberg
Noah Malhi	



TOWN OF MERRIMAC INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

2 School Street Merrimac, MA 01860
Ph. (978) 346-0525 Fax (978) 346-0522

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

		Calendar Year			
BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED		2016	2015	+/-	
New 1+2 Family Dwellings (R4)		22	16	-6	% Change
Residential: Addition/Remodel (R4)		190	203	13	
Accessory Building / Barn / Detached Garage		5	6	1	
Fireplace & Wood/Coal/Pellet Stove (independent)		0	6	6	
Swimming Pools: In-ground + Above-ground		7	7	0	
New/Replacement Manufactured Housing (M.H.)		1	0	-1	
Permit for Temporary Housing Unit		0	0	0	
Trench Permits		11	13	2	
Mechanical Permits		38	36	-2	
Commercial: New / Addition / Remodel		3	8	5	
Multi-family Dwelling: R3, R2, R1		0	20	20	
Municipal Projects		0	0	0	
Demolition Permits		4	2	-2	
Pending Permits		0	4	4	
NUMBER OF BUILDING DEPT PERMITS ISSUED		281	321	40	
Amount collected from building permits issued		\$80,208.00	\$111,359.00		
Addendum to open building permit, fees collected		\$7,182.00	\$2,160.00		
Trench permits, fees collected		\$330.00	\$450.00		
Mechanical permit fees collected		\$2,280.00	\$590.00		
Sprinkler Permit fees collected		\$475.00	\$500.00		
Municipal Projects, fees collected		\$0.00	\$0.00		
Copy and miscellaneous, fees collected		\$260.00	\$124.00		
Occupancy and Use certificate		\$1,500.00	\$1,180.00		
Inspections: 780CMR, §106 and MGL c.138, § 11E		\$40.00	\$120.00		
Total Building Dept Permit Fees		\$92,275.00	\$116,483.00	\$24,208.00	21%
Total Wiring Permit Fees		\$22,496.00	\$29,264.00	\$6,768.00	23%
Total Plumbing Permit Fees		\$13,045.00	\$13,820.00	\$775.00	6%
Total Gas Permit Fees		\$8,230.00	\$8,520.00	\$290.00	3%
Total Enforcement Action Fees		\$0.00	\$210.00	\$210.00	100%
TOTAL DEPARTMENT FEES		\$136,046.00	\$168,357.00	\$32,311.00	19%
Fees Waived by Selectmen		\$0.00	\$60.00		
TOTAL COLLECTED REVENUE		\$136,046.00	\$168,297.00	\$32,251.00	19%

Submitted By: Robert S. Sinibaldi, Building Commissioner / Zoning Enforcement Officer (A.M.)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC WATER DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING June 30, 2016

NEW CONNECTIONS: During FY2016 there were 24 new homes connected to the town's water system, bringing the total number of connections to 1890

PRIVILEGE FEE: \$51,534.02 was collected during FY2016 from individuals and developers for new service connections and deposited to Water Department Privilege Fee account. MWD utilizes this funding for various improvements to our distribution system.

SURPLUS FUNDS: MWD ended FY16 with a surplus of 195,613. Those funds will be added to our Water Capital account which is used for capital improvements.

WELL CLEANING: Wells at both East Main and Bear Hill well fields were cleaned in November 2016. The well cleaning, completed by F.G. Sullivan Co. is performed to improve pumping capacity and water quality.

ANNUAL PUMPING STATISTICS:

Gallons pumped from Bear Hill and East Main	135,804,100	an increase of 4,582,700 from FY15
Gallons sold to customers	99,706,154	a decrease of 9,188,467 from FY15
Gallons plant backwash	2,415,100	
Gallons unaccounted for	33,682,846	25% of all water pumped could not be accounted for. Causes: Fire protection, flushing, inaccurate meters, water theft and minor leaks not detectable and water main breaks.

IN THE FUTURE:

The Two Booster stations have begun construction. The booster station project was reduced from three to two stations because of the main street water main construction. It improved the efficiency of water delivery and allowed the scale of the project to be reduced. A new Water Main has been installed on Union Street, this is the beginning of the Booster Project Construction phase.

We are continuing with our water meter replacement program to insure both accurate readings and safe water along with a method to reduce the man hours it takes to obtain quarterly readings. This will lead to a cost saving to the consumer. In FY16 we replaced 161 new meters. This will also help capture the unaccounted for water. Notably, we replaced the meter at the North Shore Trailer Park. In the first billing quarter we saw an increase of over \$6,000 in revenue compared to the same time period the year before.

The purchase of a Data Logger for the Neptune Meters (all the new meters installed) was essential in order to capture accurate water usage in report form that can then be given to the customer for accountability. One commercial account had a sprinkler leak and the Data Logger was used on the meter to retrieve the data during the time frame of the leak. The \$13,000 bill the leak incurred was deemed accurate and was paid in full.

To further address the unaccounted water, we hired Hydra Tech Inc. to perform a Leak Detection Survey. Also, Haley and Ward engineers were hired to investigate a possible new water source; improve efficiency of existing supply, and examine current capacity of existing wells.

The governing rules of the EPA and DEP are always changing and to keep up we have to continually implement new rules and procedures to comply. Without the support of the employees of the Water Department this would not be possible, and I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all employees for their efforts and commitment to water quality throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted



**TOWN OF MERRIMAC
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
SEWER DEPARTMENT
4 School St.
Merrimac, MA 01860
978-346-0525**

Mike Buzzell – Superintendent
978-346-0525

Robert Sinibaldi – DPW Director
978-346-0612

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MERRIMAC WASTE WATER DEPARTMENT
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30TH 2016**

NEW CONNECTIONS: During FY2016 there were 31 new homes connected to the town's sewer system. This brings the total number of connections to 1379.

PRIVILEGE FEE: \$75,950 was collected during FY2016 from individuals and developers for new service connections and deposited to Sewer Capital account. MWWD utilizes this funding for various improvements to our wastewater services system.

SURPLUS FUNDS: MWWD ended FY16 with a surplus of 691,741. Those funds will be added to our Waste Water Capital account which is used for capital improvements.

NOTABLE PROJECTS: Our ongoing work for I & I (Inflow & Infiltration) fixes throughout the town continues. All generators were serviced; a new TSS oven was purchased for the lab; we de-watered 65 dry metric tons of sludge and sent it to Agresource in Ipswich to make compost; and completed Dig Safes throughout the year.

In the Birchmeadow area:

- The sewer pipes were cleared, lined and sealed at the manholes by Echo Clean.
- Bypass pumping, cleaning, and repairs to wet well
- Manhole repairs on Stevens Terrace, Chase Crescent, Noyes, and Gunnison

In the Lakewood Heights Area:

- Installed a new Bulldog Pump controller as well as a battery.

In the Orchard Acres Area:

- Generator Replacement and alarm repairs

In the Little Pond and Spring Hill area:

- GPS Manholes for Collection System Mapping

OPERATION AND MAPPING PLAN:

As required by our National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit, in 2016 the wastewater department began to prepare a Wastewater Collection system Operation and Maintenance Plan. The plan shall be completed and implemented by October 2017. The O & M plan shall include a preventative maintenance and monitoring program, a description of staffing necessary to properly operate and maintain the collection system, a description of funding provisions to implement the plan, a description of programs for preventing I & I related effluent violations, and educational public outreach program for I & I control, and an Overflow Emergency Response Plan.

The DPW urges the residents of Merrimac to STOP the flushing of non-flushable items. Especially detrimental to our sewer system are: Flushable (they are not) wipes, sanitary products, baby wipes, and furniture wipes.

Wastewater today is full of flushable wipes, rags and trash that can cause breakdowns and blockages in sewer lines and sewer systems [which can lead] to manholes bursting, causing raw sewage to flow into the street. They might degrade, but maybe over the course of 30 years. And we're finding these large clumps forming in a pump chamber, a wet well that can't be easily accessed. ... The only way to get these clumps out is to remove the pumps in the chamber where they've formed. ... And that's not an easy process. Sooner or later, the material has the potential of balling up the entire area. The Merrimac Waste Water Department has had to remove these impeller pumps, clean them out, and put them back on line. In an effort to keep costs down we urge the public to NOT flush these items down the toilet.

An example of the toll put on these systems by non-disposal waste is the emergency repairs that were made to replace slide rails and mounting base flanges at the Birchmeadow station – cost for the repairs, \$10,970.

MERRIMAC MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016

The Board of Light Commissioners and General Manager are pleased to submit the Annual Report of the Merrimac Municipal Light Department (“MMLD” or “Department”) for the year 2016.

MMLD MISSION STATEMENT

“The Merrimac Municipal Light Department (“MMLD”) exists to provide its owner, the Town of Merrimac’s ratepayers, safe and reliable electricity at a reasonable and competitive rate that sustains the healthy operations of the department, and the maintenance, expansion and modernization of the electrical distribution system. This mission will be accomplished by a staff of responsible, dedicated and customer-oriented employees with superior work ethics, skills and professionalism.”

NEW SERVICES

During 2016 there were a total of 31 new electrical services added to the MMLD’s electric distribution system. The total number of electric meters in service at year’s end was 2,914.

SYSTEM RELIABILITY

The MMLD is committed to providing the best electric service to the Town of Merrimac residents. The MMLD strives to provide safe and reliable power by continuing capital improvements of the system, in turn, reducing the major industry accepted indexes used to track the reliability of electric systems.

During 2016, the MMLD’s system experienced a total of 30 power outages, which affected a total of 5,152 customers. Quick response to these outages by the MMLD’s crews, resulted in 80% of the total number of customers interrupted being restored in less than 60 minutes, 18% restored between 61 and 120 minutes and only 2% restored in more than 2 hours. One outage, originated in National Grid territory, accounted for 2,850 customers affected during the year. Additionally, 80% of the total number of customers affected had a power interruption due to a combination of animal interference and weather related events. These two types of events are hard to prevent, but the Department continues to work on ways to reduce their impact.

The System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI) measures the number of minutes, on average, a Merrimac customer is without power. The System Average Frequency Index (SAIFI) measures the average frequency of interruptions for a Merrimac customer. The Customer Average Interruption Duration Index (CAIDI) identifies the average length of time, in minutes, that a customer who is interrupted can expect that interruption to last. All the indexes results, for both the combination of equipment and non-equipment related outages are found in Table 1 below.

SAIDI	SAIFI	CAIDI	TOTAL NUMBER OF OUTAGES
90.22	1.808	50	30

Table 1

CAPITAL PROJECTS

During 2016, the Municipal Light Department worked on a number of capital projects focusing on improving the distribution system reliability, incremental replacement of equipment near the end of its useful life and safety related projects. In any electrical distribution system, targeting these projects will make a significant impact on the amount of damages that could be sustained in major weather events such as those events we have experienced in past years. Storms can cause significant damages to the electrical distribution infrastructure, but systems that focus on on-going system improvements have less of an impact and are able to restore power much faster than other systems where this is not a priority.

The following are some of the capital projects the Department worked on during 2016:

Emery Street Area Conversion

This project targeted the upgrade and conversion of the electrical infrastructure from the corner of Emery Street and Burnside Lane to the East Main Street intersection. This area included the mobile home park off Emery Street. The electrical infrastructure was old, and as part of the future Burnside Street Substation upgrade, it needed to be converted to 13.8 kV. New poles were installed in Fiscal Year 2014 as part of the 23 kV supply line extension to the Mill Street Substation.

Locust Street Area Conversion

The objective of this project was to upgrade and convert the electrical infrastructure on Locust Street. The electrical infrastructure was old, and as part of the future Burnside Street Substation upgrade, it needed to be converted to 13.8 kV. Locust Street was fed off Circuit 2, which is a 4.16 kV circuit that originates at the Burnside Substation. After project was completed, Locust Street started to be electrically fed from the Mill Street Substation through Circuit 3 at 13.8 kV.

Porcelain Cutout Replacement

The MMLD's distribution system still has a number of porcelain cutouts in service. These cutouts, over time, could crack and break and cause unnecessary outages to customers. The MMLD was able to continue replacing these cutouts as part of the Capital Work Plan during 2016.

Transformer Cutout Installation

In the MMLD's distribution system there are still transformers without a distribution cutout. This situation has proven to have a big impact on reliability. Entire areas and even feeders could go without power as a result of a problem involving a single distribution transformer. Additionally, distribution transformers could be significantly overloaded resulting in reduced lifespan for those units.

Individual equipment protection is normal in electrical distribution systems and in order to reduce unnecessary widespread outages, the MMLD continued to work on the installation of cutouts on transformers that are part of feeders 3 and 4. Since feeder 2 will be completely upgraded in future years, the upgrade will involved installing cutouts for each distribution transformer.

New Developments:

In addition to the regular day to day maintenance, response to power outages and new service installations, the MMLD installed the underground electrical infrastructure for one major residential development in Town. The MMLD worked with the developers on the design and timely installation of the infrastructure needed to provide power to Abbey Road, located off Bear Hill Road.

POWER SUPPLY

The MMLD continues to work with Energy New England, who manages the MMLD's energy portfolio, to ensure energy contracts are in place to cover the Town's energy needs for future years. This is a challenging task especially because of the congested energy load zone that the Town of Merrimac is part of. Power congestion in the Northeast Massachusetts ("NEMA") and old power plants coming offline have been driving transmission and capacity costs up. This is a problem that is affecting both the municipal and Investor-Owned electric utilities in this region and it will be getting worse before it gets better. As a result, electric rates have started to go up in many communities. During 2016, the Municipal Light Department paid \$459,639 in capacity costs and that number will increase to \$924,719 in 2017 and to \$1,066,265 in 2018.

Transmission expenses will also be increasing over the next few years. Power expenses constitutes close to 80% of the Municipal Light Department's Operating Expenses; however, out of the three components of power expenses (Energy, Capacity and Transmission), Energy is only half of the overall power expenses or 40% of the Operating Expenses. The Department has been able to have a good portion of renewable energy in its energy portfolio, which includes the local 1.5 MW solar farm, hydro power from the Miller Hydro plant, and wind power from the Spruce Mountain, and Saddleback Ridge projects. Another wind resource, Canton Wind, will be added in 2018.

CREDIT PROFILE

In order for the Municipal Light Department to secure good power contracts, it needs to have a good credit rating assigned by an independent institution. In 2016, Standard & Poor's Ratings Services performed an analysis of the Municipal Light Department and assigned an "A/Stable" credit rating based on business practices and outlook.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TOWN

Based on preliminary results of year 2016, and as approved by the Municipal Light Board of Commissioners, the MMLD will be providing the Town with the following contributions for Payment in Lieu of Taxes:

Cash Payment:	\$10,085.48
Unbilled Streetlight Usage:	\$23,540.44*
Total PILOT Payment	\$33,625.92

* The MMLD has a reduced streetlight rate of \$0.103/kWh; however per the Department of Public Utilities this rate could be more close to \$0.165/kWh. This would make the Unbilled Streetlight Usage about \$37,710. The resulting PILOT based on DPU rate calculations for streetlights would be \$47,795.

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TOWN

The Municipal Light Department, offers a reduced electric rate for all of the municipal buildings in Town. Those buildings include the schools, water and sewer plants, and all the other buildings used by the multiple Town departments. Annually, this is a savings close to \$59,183 compared to other commercial customers in town. In addition, the MMLD contributes \$3,000 annually for the Town's Code Red System. Total In Lieu of Tax contributions to the Town:

Cash Payment:	\$10,085.48
Reduced Electric Rate:	\$59,183.00
DPU-Based Unbilled Streetlight Usage:	\$47,795.00
Code Red System:	\$3,000.00
Recalculated Total PILOT Payment	\$120,063.48

COMMUNITY

The Merrimac Municipal Light Department is a Public Utility, which means it is owned by its rate payers and not by a board of directors like the investor owned utilities. This means that when people call or come into the office they get to talk to a person, someone who will help them with questions that they may have about billing or electric services. The Municipal Light Department is here to serve the community.

During 2016, the MMLD conducted an electrical safety program at the Helen R. Donaghue School. This program was conducted by the MMLD's Public Safety Coordinator consultant. The objective of this program is to teach the young population in our community about the possible electric hazards at home or outside, and how to stay safe and make others safe when dangerous electrical situations are encountered. The Municipal Light Department and its Board of Commissioners believe that investing in the safety of the children of the community is a priority.

The MMLD continues to work in collaboration with other Town departments, assisting them with the use of some of our equipment, trucks and electrical expertise which saves on expenses for those departments.

In December of 2016, the MMLD assisted the Santa Committee hanging wreaths at the Town Hall building and strung the lights for the annual Christmas Tree Lighting event at Kimball Park, which has become a family tradition well enjoyed and attended by hundreds in the community.

GENERAL MANAGER, STAFF AND COMMISSIONERS

Both the MMLD's staff and Commissioners continue to be dedicated to having a municipal light department that provides safe and reliable electricity to the Town while managing to maintain rates stable in an energy market where costs are continually changing.

During 2016, one of the Department's office clerks retired after almost 30 years of full time service. A new clerk has been added to our office staff and has been getting up to speed with every aspect of the job to make sure customers get the best service possible and the department can continue to operate adequately.

In 2016, the MMLD hired a part-time superintendent to assist management and the Operation's staff to navigate through some of the changes negotiated with the Union. This position is only temporary and will be in place until management and Board of Commissioners determine it has served its purpose.

The MMLD's General Manager, Francisco A. Frias, together with the staff and under the direction of the Municipal Light Board, continues to work towards making the Department's Mission Statement a reality in every aspect of the day to day operations.

Respectfully submitted,

Francisco A. Frias
General Manager, Board of Light Commissioners

Norman Denault	Term Expires 2017
Larry Fisher	Term Expires 2019
Paula Hamel	Term Expires 2018

MERRIMAC MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR THE YEAR 2016

	Current Year	Increase or (Decrease) from Preceding Year
OPERATING INCOME		
400 Operating Revenue	4,872,624.00	66,837.90
OPERATING EXPENSES		
401 Operation Expense	3,746,254.78	-126,780.37
402 Maintenance Expense	200,964.02	64,552.93
403 Depreciation Expense.....	300,734.64	11,576.88
Total Operating Expenses.....	4,247,953.44	-50,650.56
Operating Income.....	624,670.56	117,488.46
OTHER INCOME		
415 Income from Merchandising, Jobbing and Contract Work.....		
419 Interest Income.....	99,218.19	92,736.52
421 Miscellaneous Nonoperating Income.....		
Total Income.....	723,888.75	210,224.98
INTEREST CHARGES		
427 Interest on Bonds and Notes.....	36,262.50	-2,343.75
431 Other Interest Expense.....		
Total Interest Charges.....	<u>36,262.50</u>	<u>-2,343.75</u>
NET INCOME.....	<u>687,626.25</u>	<u>212,568.73</u>

	Debits	Credits
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at beginning of period).....		4,271,159.21
433 Balance Transferred from Income.....		687,626.25
434 Miscellaneous Credits to Surplus.....		46,283.36
435 Miscellaneous Debits to Surplus.....	75,000.00	
436 Appropriations of Surplus.....	23,540.44	
437 Surplus Applied to Depreciation.....		
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at end of period).....	<u>4,906,528.38</u>	
	<u>5,005,068.82</u>	<u>5,005,068.82</u>

MERRIMAC MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET 2016

<u>ASSETS</u>	Balance Beginning of Year	Balance End of Year	Increase or (Decrease)
UTILITY PLANT			
101 Utility Plant - Electric	4,725,639.04	4,722,384.84	(3,254.20)
FUND ACCOUNTS			
125 Sinking Funds.....	719.17	719.17	-
126 Depreciation Fund.....	2,648,990.33	2,818,186.34	169,196.01
126 Rate Stabilization Fund.....	281,149.57	284,968.67	3,819.10
126 Bond Fund.....	-	-	-
127 OPEB Trust Fund.....	123,209.02	178,554.50	55,345.48
CURRENT AND ACCRUED ASSETS			
131 Cash.....	498,870.15	962,460.03	463,589.88
132 Special Deposits.....	84,727.07	80,652.07	(4,075.00)
132 Working Funds.....	200.00	200.00	-
142 Customer Accounts Receivable.....	235,935.06	210,775.23	(25,159.83)
143 Other Accounts Receivable.....			
146 Receivables from Municipality.....			
151 Materials and Supplies.....	15,001.94	15,001.94	-
165 Prepayments.....	32,187.31	32,187.31	-
165 Prepayments CTC charge.....	400,871.87	401,561.09	689.22
165 Employee Pension Prepayment.....	82,385.02	84,256.50	1,871.48
DEFERRED DEBITS			
183 Other Deferred Debits.....	589.97	560.39	(29.58)
Total Assets and Other Debits	<u>\$ 9,130,475.52</u>	<u>\$ 9,792,468.08</u>	<u>661,992.56</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>			
SURPLUS			
206 Loans Repayments.....	1,816,707.96	1,891,707.96	75,000.00
207 Appropriations for Construction Repayments.....	8,889.05	8,889.05	-
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus.....	4,271,159.21	4,906,528.38	635,369.17
LONG TERM DEBT			
221 Bonds.....	900,000.00	825,000.00	(75,000.00)
231 Notes Payable.....			-
CURRENT AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES			
232 Accounts Payable.....	259,604.01	233,020.32	(26,583.69)
235 Customer' Deposits.....	84,727.07	80,652.07	(4,075.00)
242 Miscellaneous Current and Accrued Liabilities.....	589.97	560.39	(29.58)
DEFERRED CREDITS			
252 Customer Advances for Construction.....	1,220.67	1,220.67	-
253 OPEB Liability.....	420,063.00	420,063.00	-
RESERVES			
260 Reserves for Uncollectable Accounts.....	13,586.20	13,586.20	-
CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION			
271 Contributions in Aid of Construction.....	1,353,928.38	1,411,240.04	57,311.66
Total Liabilities and Other Credits	<u>\$ 9,130,475.52</u>	<u>\$ 9,792,468.08</u>	<u>661,992.56</u>

2016 MERRIMAC PLANNING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

In calendar year 2016 development in the town under the authority of the Planning Board continued at a steady pace and the Board continued to attend to other aspects of its role of providing citizen input for perspective land use and development.

The end of year status of ongoing projects approved by the Board and subject to continued construction oversight is as follows:

- Quail Ridge (off of Battis Road) – Construction of this 11 single-family subdivision that was approved in the early 2000's nears completion. Several issues related to erosion and drainage were rectified by the Town at the request and expense of the developer. Estimated completion in 2017.
- Poplar Hill (off of Middle Road) – Many of the homes are completed or under construction in this 15 home Open Space Residential Development. Estimated completion in 2017.
- Freedom Way (106 E. Main) – Construction of the 36 over-55 units in nine buildings is near completion and most of the units have been sold. Estimated completion in 2017.
- 22-32 Bear Hill Road (Abbey Road) – Interior road and drainage work and housing construction on two lots is under way in this 13-single family home Open Space Residential Development. Developer delayed too long to begin improvement of water lines and extension of sewer lines up Bear Hill Road before winter so these will need to be addressed immediately in the spring. Estimated completion in 2018.
- Regency Village (106 W. Main) – On August 2nd the Board voted to approve the sub-division of the property into four lots and Special Permits and Site Plan Review for development of buildings on two lots with a total of 96 apartments for over-55. Land for the street was cleared in the fall and construction will begin in spring 2017.

New developments with public hearings for a Special Permit opening in the past year include:

- 128 W. Main - Applicant is seeking to modify previous Special Permit granted for auto repair and sales to include a new large building for maintenance and repair of dump trucks. The Public Hearing was opened on Nov. 15th.
- Lily Village Plaza (118 E. Main St. – old Corona site) – Applicant is proposing a Special Permit for a 12,450 sq. ft. commercial building in front with two buildings consisting of a total of nine two-bedroom condo units behind it. The Public Hearing was opened on Nov. 15th.
- Alternative Therapies Groups (17 Board St.) – A commercial building on this site was previously approved for Site Plan Review (SPR). It is now proposed that the building be used for distribution of medical marijuana which requires a Special Permit. The Public Hearing opened on Dec. 6th at which time it was determined that the previous SPR had expired and a new application needs to be included with the Special Permit application.

In other business, the Board granted three new Approval Not Required (ANRs) during the year. The Board advised the Playground Committee on how to proceed with an application for SPR once the Board of Selectmen and they have agreed on a site for new playground for children 2-12. The Board also reviewed and commented on several pre-conceptual plans for perspective developments.

The Board collected \$24,508 in filing fees for its review activities in 2016. During the year the Board also voted approval and support for the Town's 2016-2020 Housing Production Plan, the 2016-2020 Open Space and Recreation Plan, and the 2016 Community Development Strategy.

The Board engaged a consultant to draft proposed changes in the zoning provisions for the Rural Highway District as development in this district has not proceeded as envisioned when major changes were made to zoning in 2004. Town departments, boards and residents were invited to a discussion to comments on the possible options being proposed. The Board will continue this review in 2017.

The Board reorganized in May and voted John Thomas as MVPC Commissioner, Ron Barnes as Vice Chair, and Sandra Venner as Chair. Sandra Venner also continues to serve as chair of the Affordable Housing Board of Trustees. As always, the Board is grateful for the professionalism and dedication of its administrative assistant, Patricia True, who not only serves the Board well but the entire community.

Respectfully submitted by

Sandra Venner, Chairperson
Merrimac Planning Board

John Thomas	Term expires 2017
Ronald Barnes	Term expires 2018
Sandra Venner	Term expires 2019
Karol Flannery	Term expires 2020
Dennis Brodie	Term expires 2021
Keith Pollman	Alternate for Special Permits



**TOWN OF MERRIMAC
FINANCE DIRECTOR**

4 School Street
Merrimac, MA 01860
Phone (978) 346-0524
E-Mail: cmcleod@townofmerrimac.com

**Honorable Board of Selectmen
Town of Merrimac
Massachusetts, 01860**

Honorable Selectmen,

In accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Annual Financial Report of the Town Accountant for the Town of Merrimac, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016 is herewith submitted.

The data represents a fair and accurate presentation in all material aspects of the Town's financial position and the results of its operations. Disclosures necessary to enable the reader to gain an understanding of the Town's financial affairs have been presented. Included are schedules on debt issue and servicing, a detailed listing of revenues and expenditures, a balance sheet for all fund types and account groups, and a combined statement of cash flows.

The reports are based on information recorded using the Uniform Municipal Accounting System (UMAS) of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. The same information is used to prepare the Schedule A.

An audit of the Town's financial records by Bill Fraher, C.P.A., has been completed and the results of this audit are available in my office for public inspection. The books of the Town are also open for public inspection during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. McLeod
Finance Director

Town of Merrimac
General Long Term Debt Activity

Fiscal Year 2016

Issue	Issue Date	Interest Rate	Original Amount	Balance 7/1/15	Additions	Retired	Balance 6/30/16	Interest Paid 7/1/15-6/30/16
Title V	4/29/99	0%	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 22,200.80	\$ -	\$ 11,100.40	\$ 11,100.40	\$ -
River Road MWPAT	10/6/99		\$ 149,856.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 571.81
Multi-Purpose Loan	11/15/03	2%-4.5%	\$ 4,231,000.00	\$ 800,000.00	\$ -	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 710,000.00	\$ 31,480.00
Multi-Purpose Loan	4/15/07	4.95%	\$ 378,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 990.00
Multi-Purpose Loan	2/15/08	3.56%	\$ 2,380,000.00	\$ 1,370,000.00	\$ -	\$ 160,000.00	\$ 1,210,000.00	\$ 52,225.00
Sewer - Ridgefield Rd.	8/23/10	3.97%	\$ 132,080.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 2,600.00
Multi-Purpose Loan	12/3/13	1.92%	\$ 3,971,000.00	\$ 3,510,000.00	\$ -	\$ 445,000.00	\$ 3,065,000.00	\$ 81,475.00
MA Clean Water Trust	2/11/16	2.00%	\$ 860,000.00	\$ -	\$ 860,000.00	\$ -	\$ 860,000.00	\$ -
Total All			\$ 5,842,200.80	\$ 860,000.00	\$ 860,000.00	\$ 741,100.40	\$ 5,961,100.40	\$ 169,341.81
Less: Electric	2/15/08	3.60%	\$1,500,000.00	\$ 975,000.00		\$75,000.00	\$ 900,000.00	\$37,434.37
Total Excluding Electric			\$ 4,867,200.80	\$ 860,000.00	\$ 860,000.00	\$ 666,100.40	\$ 5,061,100.40	\$ 131,907.44

Prepared by CAM

4/17/17

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
COMBINING BALANCE SHEET - NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
June 30, 2016

	<u>Special Revenue</u>		Capital		
	Grants	Other	Projects	Permanent	Totals
<u>Assets</u>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ (55,978)	\$ 889,186	\$ 22,390	\$ 79,886	\$ 935,484
Investments				375,189	375,189
Receivables:					0
Departmental		19,241			19,241
Due from other governments	231,150				231,150
Total assets	<u>175,172</u>	<u>908,427</u>	<u>22,390</u>	<u>455,075</u>	<u>1,561,064</u>
<u>Liabilities</u>					
Warrants and accounts payable	149,910	54,965		320	205,195
Accrued payroll	2,200	7,386			9,586
Notes payable					0
Total liabilities	<u>152,110</u>	<u>62,351</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>320</u>	<u>214,781</u>
<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>					
Unavailable revenue		19,241			19,241
	<u>0</u>	<u>19,241</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>19,241</u>
<u>Fund Balances</u>					
Nonspendable				340,517	340,517
Restricted	23,062	782,877	22,390	114,238	942,567
Assigned		43,958			43,958
Unassigned					0
Total fund balances	<u>23,062</u>	<u>826,835</u>	<u>22,390</u>	<u>454,755</u>	<u>1,327,042</u>
Total liabilities and fund balances	<u>\$ 175,172</u>	<u>\$ 908,427</u>	<u>\$ 22,390</u>	<u>\$ 455,075</u>	<u>\$ 1,561,064</u>

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
NON-MAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

	Special Revenue		Capital Projects	Permanent	Total
	Grants	Other			
Revenues					
Department charges for services		334,322		4,600	338,922
Intergovernmental	425,910	6,125			432,035
Investment Income	3	30		12,816	12,849
Other		195,960			195,960
Total revenues	425,913	536,437	0	17,416	979,766
Expenditures					
Current					
General government	3,276	198,275			201,551
Public safety	48,020	157,832			205,852
Public works	262,562	71,459		4,722	338,743
Human services	19,522	71,096			90,618
Recreation and culture	17,126	11,791		1,000	29,917
Total expenditures	350,506	510,453	0	5,722	866,681
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	75,407	25,984	0	11,694	113,085
Other financing sources (uses)					
Proceeds from bond issues					0
Operating transfers in		10,000			10,000
Operating transfers out	-83,527	-237,806			-321,333
Total other financing sources (uses)	-83,527	-227,806	0	0	-311,333
Net changes in fund balances	-8,120	-201,822	0	11,694	-198,248
Fund balances, beginning of year	31,182	1,028,657	22,390	443,061	1,525,290
Fund balances, end of year	\$ 23,062	\$ 826,835	\$ 22,390	\$ 454,755	\$ 1,327,042

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES
BUDGETARY BASIS - GENERAL FUND
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2016

	Original Budget	Final	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:				
Property taxes	\$ 11,381,796	\$ 11,381,796	\$ 11,556,644	\$ 174,848
Excise taxes	795,500	795,500	904,571	109,071
Payments in lieu of tax	28,000	28,000	0	-28,000
Departmental charges for services	552,800	552,800	487,158	-65,642
Licenses and permits	59,000	59,000	79,530	20,530
Intergovernmental	883,367	883,367	868,799	-14,568
Fines	57,000	57,000	52,586	-4,414
Investment income	8,000	8,000	13,560	5,560
Other	83,023	83,023	116,727	-33,704
Total Revenue	13,848,486	13,848,486	14,079,575	163,681
Expenditures:				
General government	799,423	898,398	784,699	113,699
Public safety	1,718,664	1,781,830	1,755,479	26,351
Education	8,111,704	8,155,704	8,131,251	24,453
Public works	1,093,732	1,153,232	1,121,472	31,760
Human services	404,032	405,141	382,804	22,337
Culture and recreation	287,257	319,257	315,214	4,043
Debt service	527,363	527,363	527,287	76
Intergovernmental	81,533	81,533	81,533	0
Employee benefits	742,178	912,178	863,111	49,067
Insurance	100,000	100,000	74,303	25,697
Total Expenditures	13,865,886	14,334,636	14,037,153	297,483
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	-17,400	-486,150	42,422	461,164
Other financing sources (uses):				
Operating transfers in	17,400	290,150	380,083	89,933
Operating transfers out		-81,506	-86,506	-5,000
Total other financing sources (uses)	17,400	208,644	293,577	84,933
Net changes in fund balances	0	-277,506	335,999	546,097
Fund balance, beginning of year			777,577	



TOWN OF MERRIMAC
Board of Assessors
6 School St.
Merrimac, MA 01860
(978) 346-9022

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Board continues to be busy visiting homes in Merrimac. They are doing Cyclical inspections which are required by the Department of Revenue and dictates that we must inspect every home in town once every nine years for data quality. They are doing Permit inspections which are done for the previous years building permits. They are also doing Occupancy inspections for new homes that are occupied after July 1st. The Board would like to thank the citizens of Merrimac for their continued cooperation during these inspections.

The Board will be out this Spring taking new pictures of all the homes in town.

The tax rate for fiscal year 2017 is \$16.34 per thousand. Property cards may be obtained on line by property owners to view their data. <http://www.merrimac01860.info/171/Assessors>

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Edward R. Davis, Chairman

Term expires 2018

Louise T. Lingerian

Term expires 2019

William Pollman

Term expires 2017

Heather Roche, Clerk

FISCAL YEAR 2016 RECAPITULATION

1. Tax Rate Summary

A. Total Amount to be Raised	\$	17,996,085.19
B. Total Estimated Receipts/Revenue	\$	5,959,291.00
C. Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation (Levy)	\$	12,036,794.19
D. Classified Tax Levies		

1. Residential	95.1572%	\$	11,453,874.75
2. Open Space	0	\$	0
3. Commercial	2.7393%	\$	329,729.03
4. Industrial	0.9925%	\$	119,463.54
5. Personal	1.1110%	\$	133,726.87

2. Amounts to be Raised

A. Appropriation	\$	17,792,292.00
B. Total Cherry Sheets Offsets	\$	9,107.00
C. State and County Cherry Sheet Charges	\$	81,533.00
D. Allowance for Abatements/Exemptions	\$	101,209.19

Total Amount to be Raised	\$	17,996,085.19
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3. Estimated Receipts and other Revenue

A. State	\$	924,270.00
B. Local	\$	1,632,500.00
C. Enterprise Funds	\$	2,505,745.00
D. Free Cash	\$	439,506.00
E. Other Available Funds	\$	457,270.00
F. Municipal Light Source	\$	0

Total Estimated Receipts	\$	5,959,291.00
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Number of Taxable Accounts

1. Residential Single Family	1,621
2. Residential Two Family	101
3. Residential Three Family	9
4. Residential Apt. Bldg. / Misc.	17
5. Residential Land	169
6. Condominiums	271
7. Commercial	49
8. Industrial	19
9. Commercial Other	30
10. Personal Property	51
11. Chapter 61	17

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Roche, Clerk
On behalf of the Board of Assessors

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL OFFICER

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen: Activities from January 2016 to December 2016

Dogs

Five hundred and sixty-six dogs were licensed in 2016. Under Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 140 sec 137 all dogs over six months of age are required have rabies vaccine and be licensed.

Thirty-four dogs were picked up or dropped off at the police department. Twenty-one of those dogs were returned promptly. Six dogs were kenneled at the Bed and Biscuit all six were released upon current rabies vaccination, current licensing and payments of fines. Seven dogs were released from the police department upon current rabies vaccination, current licensing and payment of fines.

Eight dog bites were reported. These dogs were quarantined for ten days. Under Mass Gen. Law Chapter 129. All dogs were current on rabies vaccinations. Please remember that Rabies Vaccination are required under Mass Gen. Laws Ch. 140, sec 145 for the protection of pets and people. We also responded to multiple barking complaints, nuisance issues and dogs running at large. We are also working on a solution for dogs defecating at the Donahue School.

Cats

Nineteen lost cats, only four were found, eight were hit by cars, four were brought to Merrimack River Feline Rescue were never claimed. Six feral cats were trapped and taken from an abandoned home on Middle Road. Keeping cats indoors is the best avenue in keeping your feline alive and well.

Wildlife

We received many calls about raccoons, skunks, squirrels, and other small wildlife that were found to be a nuisance. To avoid these animals being problematic, I suggest that residents remove any food in your yard and keep garbage cans covered. I had several wildlife rescues with positive outcomes. We responded to two calls for bats in the house. Both bats were sent out to the lab for rabies testing. I am happy to report they tested negative for the rabies virus. We caught several wildlife that appeared to be injured or sick and were euthanize in a humane way, there was no contact with humans or pets.

Farm Animals

We responded to several calls of horses, cows, chickens and sheep that had been loose in the road. We assisted owners in safely getting them back home.

Respectfully submitted

Lisa Young, ACCO

MERRIMAC CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

The members of the Capital Planning Committee met with various department heads on February 18, 2016 to discuss their requests for Fiscal Year 2017:

The following is a list of these requests including the funding sources:

POLICE:

\$45,000 - To replace aging Cruiser. **Approved 4 -0-1**

Note: The cruiser request will now be on an every other year schedule starting in FY2019. Funding Source is Free Cash.

FIRE

\$1,000,000 - For new Pumper/Tanker/Rescue Truck. **Rejected 5-0.**

Note: Discussion was the cost of having an additional 3,000 gallons of water available which lasts a few minutes when Merrimac has very few fire events and has mutual aid available from several surrounding communities.

DPW/HIGHWAY:

\$35,000 - For used Street Sweeper. **Approved 5-0**

Note: To replace 1976 Elgin Sweeper.
Funding Source is Free Cash.

DPW/ CEMETARY:

\$20,000 - Septic Holding Tank. **Approved 5-0**

Note: To replace old & leaking tank.
Funding Source is Free Cash.

DPW/ WATER DEPT.:

\$175,000 – For Water Main replacement. **Approved 5-0**

\$30,000 – For Water Meter replacement. **Approved 5-0**

Note: Continuing program to upgrade water infrastructure.
Funding Source is Water Retained Earnings.

DPW/ PARKS & RECREATION:

\$12,000 - For new Tractor/Mower. **Approved 5-0**

Note: To replace 1996 John Deere Tractor/Mower.
Funding Source is Free Cash.

SWEETSIR SCHOOL:

\$25,000 – For exterior painting. **Approved 5-0**

Note: Annual expense to paint one side of the building to keep up with maintenance. Funding Source is Free Cash.

DONAGHUE SCHOOL:

\$53,227 - To replace flooring. **Approved 5-0**

Note: Continue with removing old and damaged floor tiles.

Funding source is transfer balance of \$33,227 from the flooring account at the Sweetsir School and \$20,000 from Free Cash.

TOTALS:

\$157,000 - Approved Free Cash

\$205,000 - Approved Water Retained Earnings

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Pinciario, Chair

Sandra Venner

Janet Bruno

James Archibald, Finance Committee Representative

Earl Baumgardner, Selectmen Representative

Carol McLeod, Finance Director

MERRIMAC CONSERVATION COMMISSION 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

The primary function of the Conservation Commission is to protect and preserve wetland resource areas as defined in the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act (M.G.L Chapter 131, Section 40) and the Merrimac Wetland Protection Bylaw. Since Colonial times, Massachusetts has lost nearly one third of its wetlands to development. The loss of wetlands means the loss of the vital benefits they provide. These benefits include the protection of water quality for Merrimac's surface and ground waters, stormwater and flood damage protection, and the protection of wildlife and plant habitat.

The Commission works to protect the Town's natural resources in accordance with the Act and the Town Bylaw. The Conservation Commission is composed of seven members, six currently, who serve as unpaid volunteers, who are assisted by a part-time Wetland Agent. The Commission generally meets once a month on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Public Library to conduct regular business and public hearings on proposed projects under the Commission's jurisdiction. When necessary, the Commission schedules special meetings and site visits to review projects. During the course of this year 11 regular meetings and 1 Special meeting were held and 11 site visits were conducted. There were 22 projects filed with the Commission, primarily involving construction of subdivision roads and utilities, new single-family homes, and additions to existing buildings throughout Merrimac. In addition to reviewing proposed projects submitted by property owners, the Commission addresses work that affects wetlands conducted without the required permits. In 2016 4 violation/enforcement orders were issued to property owners regarding work undertaken in violation of the Act and the Town Bylaw. A member of the Commission also participates in the Site Plan Review Committee under Merrimac's Zoning bylaw.

The Commission continues to implement the additional protection measures provided in the Merrimac Wetland Protection Bylaw and the Merrimac Wetland Protection Regulations when considering proposed projects in Town. The Bylaw was adopted at Town Meeting in the fall of 2003, and it became effective in late 2003. The regulations include a number of provisions to strengthen protection of Merrimac's wetlands beyond what is addressed in Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act including:

1. Provide added protection to wetlands with no or limited protection by state law such as isolated wetlands and vernal pools--wetlands that hold water in the spring long enough to provide critical breeding habitat for frogs, salamanders and other aquatic life and most dry up by mid-summer. Vernal pools are rare in the landscape. Many vernal pools are small, isolated wetlands that have little or no protection under the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act.
2. Establish a no-disturb zone surrounding wetlands to protect wetlands from new development and encroachment from existing development.
3. Allow the Commission to issue fines to irresponsible property owners who ignore Wetlands Protection regulations and orders issued by the Commission and damage wetland resources.
4. Allow the town to charge reasonable application fees to defray the cost of administering the Bylaw.

If you are contemplating any work within 100 feet of a wetland, intermittent stream or within 200 feet of any river or stream that flows year-round (such as the Merrimack River and Cobblers Brook), you need to consult with the Commission prior to undertaking any work.

Wetlands are an important resource to the Town of Merrimac. They protect, filter, and provide the high quality of water in our water supply wells. They protect and support fish and wildlife in Lake Attitash, the Merrimack River, and other water bodies in town. They provide habitat and food sources for the birds, reptiles, amphibians and other animals that make Merrimac a unique place to live. They provide large tracts of open and undeveloped land that make up the quality of life we all enjoy in Merrimac. The Commission is eager to assist landowners in their decisions about whether and how to proceed with a project near wetlands. We encourage all residents to contact us regarding any questions or concerns related to

the Towns wetland resources. The Commission is always looking for interested citizens that may want to become involved in working to protect the valuable wetland resources we all share in Merrimac. The Commission is currently looking for additional members, so if you have an interest or expertise in protecting wetlands please contact any of the Commission members, or just attend one of the meetings, to get involved.

Respectfully Submitted,

MERRIMAC CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Robert Prokop, Chairman

Dennis Hogan, Member

Gregory Hockmuth, Member

Jon Pearson, Member

Janet Terry, Member

Arthur Yarranton, Member

Jay Smith, Agent

BOARD of HEALTH 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

The Board of Health meetings are held on an as-needed basis. We may be contacted at (978) 346-4066 or at boh@townof-merrimac.com. The office is staffed on Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00-4:00.

During 2016, the Board of Health continued to participate in Homeland Security and the Emergency Preparedness Plan, and for these efforts we receive supplemental funding from the Regional Coalition. Deborah Ketchen, Health Agent, and Charlotte E. Stepanian, Public Health Nurse, are the primary representatives and contacts in this program.

Deborah Ketchen has been our Health Inspector since March 2006. In 2012 she received her Bachelor of Arts Degree, majoring in Homeland Security and Emergency Management. This accomplishment was achieved through Ashford University, Clinton, Iowa, by enlisting in their distance learning program for a period of 2-plus years.

Debbie regularly attends meetings of the NE Region 3A Coalition where training plans are formulated. She also acts as our representative during hearings that are litigated at the Housing Court. She is responsible for the ultimate enforcement of the Code of Massachusetts Regulations as they pertain to the minimum standards of health and safety. Attributed to the health agent's periodic monitoring, conditions in restaurants and rental units continually improve.

Jason Sargent, Chairperson, was voted in as the Chair of the Board of Health in May 2016. His three-year term on the Board of Health continues until May of 2019. Mr. Sargent graduated from Oklahoma State University, receiving a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Agronomy from the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. His broad knowledge of many facets of our environment is an invaluable asset to the Board of Health and to the town.

Karen Gray was elected in May of 2015, for a two-year unexpired term as board member. Her two-year term with the Board of Health continues until May of 2017.

Hal Lloyd, was elected to a three-year term on the Board of Health in May 2015. His term with the Board of Health continues until May of 2018.

Berni Angelo, is the Administrative Assistant for the Board of Health. She handles inquiries from the general public and assists contractors and business owners with licenses and permits. Several responsibilities include updating records, maintaining BOH files and transcribing minutes of meetings.

Annual Licenses or Permits

Annual application forms and regulations may be obtained at the Board of Health office or on our web site at www.merrimac01860.info. Applications and notification of expiration are no longer mailed. Annual license fees are payable by December 31 each year.

Respectfully submitted,

Merrimac Board of Health

Jason Sargent	Term expires 2019
Karen Gray	Term expires 2017
Hal Lloyd	Term expires 2018

MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM INFORMATION

PESTICIDE EXCLUSION INFORMATION: To request an exclusion from spraying, supply the Town Clerk with a certified letter providing the name, address and telephone number of the person requesting the exclusion, the address of the property to be excluded, and a description of the types of pesticide application programs for which exclusion is requested. The desires of the owner of the property will take precedence over those of a tenant, according to 333 CMR 13:000. Designations must be made prior to March 1 of each year and shall be effective from April 1 of that year to March 31 of the following year. (333 CMR 13.03, paragraphs 1b & 1c)

For more information on the Northeast Massachusetts Mosquito Control and Wetlands Management District, call 978-463-6630, or 978 352 2800.

SURVEILLANCE and **LARVICIDING** are of the utmost importance, and they comprise the greatest portion of the program cost. This is the regular testing of mosquitoes and birds for the virus, and the application of larvicides to mosquito breeding areas to kill or inhibit the growth of mosquito larvae (the early stage of the mosquito) from developing into the adult form. Continued annual surveillance is an early intervention or preemptive action to prevent a potential mosquito breeding site from becoming an actual mosquito breeding site.

ADULTICIDING is a term used by mosquito control to describe spraying for adult or flying mosquitoes. There are two kinds of adulticiding: Aerial, done by aircraft only in the event of a public health emergency; and Ground, sprayed from trucks selectively in accordance with the individual municipality's Best Management Practice Plan (BMP).

Ground Adulticiding is used in today's programs to control the mosquito populations in their aquatic or larval stages. This is accomplished by means of a truck-mounted Ultra Low Volume (ULV) aerosol sprayer. ULV sprays up to six ounces of insecticide per acre, creating a 300- to 400-foot swath. Depending on wind direction this swath will drift off the road; and tiny droplets will impinge on mosquitoes, effectively controlling the mosquitoes in the area.

Insecticide: The District uses Anvil (EPA Reg. No. 1021-1688-8329) for ULV applications. The active ingredient, Sumithrin, has a very low toxicity to mammals. This product is registered for use by the US EPA and the Mass. Pesticide Bureau. All District personnel are certified applicators and annually attend seminars to obtain recertification credits.

Most people are not expected to experience any adverse health effects after pesticide spraying for adult mosquito control. This includes pregnant women and unborn children. If a person has any concerns, the Board of Health may be contacted to request that spraying be excluded from the specific property.

Ground sprays do not pose an unreasonable risk to birds or mammals. Since spraying is done in the late evening, the bees and other flying insects are not foraging at that hour and will not be affected.

West Nile Virus: The primary mosquito carrier of WNV, *Culex Pipiens*, usually breeds in artificial containers such as catch basins, storm water structures, industrial parks and commercial or agricultural livestock facilities. Regularly empty any water-holding containers on your property such as garbage cans, flower pots, swimming pool covers, watering troughs and birdbaths, and dispose of old tires.

Information about EEE and reports of EEE activity in Massachusetts during 2008 can be found on the MDPH website at www.mass.gov/dph/wnv/wnvl.htm. Merrimac will continue to work closely with the MDPH Arbovirus Surveillance Program and the NE Massachusetts Mosquito Control Agency on mosquito control and surveillance efforts. Decisions regarding spraying will be made by the Board of Health in cooperation with the Mosquito Control Agency. As long as this program is continued annually, we remain protected from severe outbreaks.

BOARD OF HEALTH 2016

Licenses	Fee	BUSINESS	Permits	Fee	
11	770	Food Licenses	11	6,300	Disposal System
3	150	Non-PHF Retail	8	3,850	Deep Hole/Perc
8	400	Common Victualler	5	750	Well/Pump
2	100	Mobile Food	2	100	System Repairs
0	0	Catering	3	150	System Abandoned
6	60	Milk License			
0	0	Peddler			
0	0	Temp. Food Server			
8	1,000	Septic Installers			
4	200	Septic Haulers			
2	250	Septic Test			
3	150	Tobacco			
1	50	Tanning			
2	100	Mfrd. Homes			

Total:	\$3,230			\$11,150
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Grand Total; \$14,380.00

TOWN OF MERRIMAC
BOARD OF HEALTH
2 School Street
Merrimac, MA 01860
Tel: 978-346-4066
nurse@townofmerrimac.com

Public Health Nurse Report for FY 2017

The past fiscal year has been consumed with a great deal of emergency preparedness activity locally, regionally and state-wide. Merrimac is part of Massachusetts Region 3 for preparedness and located within the subsection of 3A, (Northeast Public Health Coalition) which is comprised of the 14 communities here in the Northeast corner of the state (Haverhill on the west, Salisbury and Newburyport on the east and down to Ipswich and Middleton to the south.) For the past year, I have served as the chair of the 3A Executive Committee chairing the quarterly general meetings held here in Merrimac in the renovated Sargent's Hall.

'Also during this same fiscal year, state-wide, Health & Medical Coordinating Coalitions (HMCC's) structured regionally have been formed to bring together 5 disciplines to function collectively together in the event of an emergency. These five disciplines are hospitals, public health, fire and emergency services, long-term care and community health centers. Emergency management has just finally recently been added. These six respective silos have never worked together in the past but are slowly coming together.

During this current academic year I have had an intern from the Regis College Public Health baccalaureate program working with me. Preparedness has been the focus of her activities here in Merrimac as we together recorded a personal preparedness program for our local cable station as well as recording the same material in Spanish for the Spanish speaking audience. Her presence will end with her graduation in May.

Medication management for seniors continues weekly as do the weekly blood pressure clinics held at the Senior Center at 12:30 pm on Tuesday and at 2 pm at Merri Village. Education about the correct positioning for having one's blood measured continues with the public on a regular basis with office practice patterns now changing. I continue to assist residents with Vitamin B12 injection needs.

Seasonal flu immunization sessions began at the end of September at the annual Senior Health Fair at the Senior Center with two follow-up sessions in later months. Unfortunately, health departments are now in competition with the area pharmacies and grocery stores that also offer vaccine before health departments have received their supplies. My ordering decreases each year and will again. There has been no significant requests for other vaccines in recent years.

Merrimac's Sharps Collection program continues. All Sharps brought to the Senior Center for disposal must be in an approved Sharp's container. Regulation Sharps containers are available for purchase at a minimal cost at the Senior Center. Medication disposal is available in the police station lobby.

I am available for questions and concerns at my Senior Center office on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays between 11 am and 1 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlotte E. Stepanian
Charlotte E. Stepanian, MSN, RN-BC

TRUSTEE OF CEMETERIES 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

To: The Honorable Board of Selectmen

From: The Trustees of the Cemeteries

This year has been a good year: The holding tank was replaced, thankfully. We had only one issue with a leaning headstone which was fixed very quickly. There was a new lawn mower needed and purchased. Automatic lighting was put into the garage next to the cemetery office on Locust Grove Street and has alleviated a dangerous situation. We thank Mr. Harold White II of the DPW for his great work.

Church Street's cemetery suffered damage to the granite columns and grill work, but has been partially covered and paid by insurance. This should be remedied by Memorial Day.

Mr. Dondero of C.R. Dondero Nursery of Amesbury will be removing a dead tree and does general cleanup around the bushes, etc., for Memorial Day. His services have been invaluable to the board.

Deer have not been as destructive to the bushes as in past years. Even though lower branches have been affected in the past, they still look fairly decent.

The Board of Trustees met with the Board of Selectman on January 23 to talk about the future of the board if no one chose to run. Brown's term is up this year, and Pat Casey wants to step back. Tom Barry has two more years.

The Cemetery Board requested a computer for the office and a person to put all the files in one area. They liked the idea, but suggested that the DPW take over control of the board. We were heading in that direction, but it will take a year to implement as the State has to agree.

Respectfully submitted:

Sandra Brown, Clerk
Pat Casey
Tom Barry

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MERRIMAC HISTORICAL COMMISSION
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016**

To the citizens of Merrimac:

As in other years, there were numerous requests made to the commission for historical information:

Research was conducted for the Cemetery Trustees to verify the location of the Training Field on Church Street and its proximity to the cemetery. Deed research was conducted at the Registry of Deeds in Salem and a trip was made to the Congregational Library in Boston, where the archival records of Pilgrim Church were deposited in the 1980's. Further confirmation of the Training Field being located as it is described in the Merrimac Historic Trail Guide was supplied by measuring the distance of the western boundary as referenced in Merrill's History of Amesbury and Merrimac (published in 1881.) The distance measures exactly as Merrill cites the figures.

Numbers of questions were received from individuals asking about the age and history of their house. Whenever possible, we share with them the information we have and always give them direction on where to go for further research. Sometimes they are fortunate to find their house pictured on the bird's eye views of Merrimac on the 1880 and 1889 maps that are on sale to the public at the Merrimac Historical Museum.

In the early spring of this year a Merrimac senior requested the opportunity to perform an internship with the Merrimac Historical Museum, Inc. as part of a new program started by the Social Studies Department at Pentucket. His name is Collin Tarr and he has impressed us all with his energy, creativity, and ability. Remarkably, he is also performing a similar internship at the Customs House Maritime Museum in Newburyport. Because members of the Historical Commission continue to work closely with the Merrimac Museum we have also shared in the experience and benefits of working with Collin. Space here will not allow for a detailed description of the projects he is working on, but clearly the bottom line is the strengthening of interest in and appreciation for the history of Merrimac.

As referenced above, Historical Commission members continue to assist with showing the Merrimac Historical Museum to the general public on Sundays, May-October, from 2-4 P.M. and during the Old Home Day weekend.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey W. Hoyt, Chairman
Yvonne D. Cosgrove
Carl J. Walden

MERRIMAC CULTURAL COUNCIL 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

The Merrimac Cultural Council is a board of local volunteers with demonstrated interest in the cultural life here in Merrimac. Each year the Massachusetts Cultural Council allocates proportional grant amounts to the local cultural councils in cities and towns in Massachusetts. The purpose is to fund projects in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences to benefit the residents of each community. These funds are applied for by non-profit organizations, presenters, or members of the public every October through a grant application process. Financial awards are on a reimbursement basis following completion of the funded activity and submission of receipts.

The Merrimac Cultural Council favors local applicants with established venues or sponsors. We fund arts-related projects when feasible, and encourage new applicants or projects of particular interest to our local community. When reviewing applicants we also consider local needs, a balanced age range and scope of audiences, community involvement, and diversity.

Each year we fund many programs at the library, the Senior Center, and during Old Home Days, among other local venues. Input from the community is always welcome and we encourage new memberships, which are town board appointments approved by the Merrimac Selectmen. Each member is appointed for a three year term and can be reappointed for one additional three year term. At the end of the second term, there must be at least one full year before the member can be reappointed.

For more information, go to <https://www.facebook.com/merrimacculturalcouncil>

AWARDED APPLICATIONS 2017:

Merrimac Public Library
Exhibits Coordinator \$500

Merrimac Public Library
Mirth, Mime and Magic \$375

Newburyport Choral Society
2017 Concert \$225

Jim Manning
Star Wars Jedi Knight Training Program \$400

Davis Bates
CoA Seasonal Performance \$325

Open Air Arts
Outdoor Sculpture at Maudsley \$240

Steve Henderson
Mabel & Jerry - A Play \$300

Museum of Printing
Community Open House Day \$400

On Stage Inc. Theater in the Open
Spring 2017 Panto \$350

Pentucket Arts Association
Improv Boston \$400

Merrimack Valley Concert Band
Old Home Days \$700

Merrimack Valley Philharmonic Orchestra
56th Season \$240

Newburyport Chamber Music Festival
2017 Summer Music Schedule \$375

Grants awards totaled \$5040

Current Board Members:

Gillian Hosman	12/01/2014 - 06/30/2017
Julia Bethmann	10/20/2014 - 06/30/2017
Chrissy Corkery	11/03/2014 - 06/30/2017
Aysim Dalmau	02/11/2015 - 06/30/2018
Rick Olson	03/16/2015 - 06/30/2018
Carole Sokolowski	06/30/2015 - 06/30/2018
Laura Champion	03/02/2015 - 06/30/2018
Dave Shaw	08/31/2016 - 08/31/2022

2016 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Affordable Housing Board of Trustees (AHBT) was established in June 2009 in accordance with the Town By-Law voted in May 2008. 2016 was again a very active year for the Board.

The Board's primary responsibility is to implement the Town's Housing Production Plan (HPP) with goals and strategies to increase the availability of affordable housing that qualifies for the state Subsidized Housing Inventory. The previous plan expired in December 2015. A revised plan was approved by the Board of Selectman and Planning Board and submitted to the state DHCD which approved it effective February 2, 2016. The new HPP will expire on February 2, 2021. The new plan is available at the Town website.

On February 11th Amesbury, with assistance from Salisbury, submitted a joint application that included Merrimac to DHCD for CDBG funds. The project is to provide housing rehabilitation and related services as part of a program currently administered by the Town of Salisbury. In June, the towns were notified that they would be awarded the grant for funds to be released later in the year. The process of contacting and vetting those who had applied for assistance began in the order determined by a lottery. It is anticipated that nine Merrimac homeowners will be assisted over an 18-month period. The AHBT also voted that expiring HOME funds be utilized for the program. Community Opportunities Group will administer the grant. Sandra Venner, Martha Crook and Chief Eric Shearers serve on the Citizen Advisory Council for the grant.

The Board continues to support the Town's efforts to re-develop the former site of Coastal Metals at Little's Court as affordable housing. In 2016 the Town reapplied for federal funds for environmental clean-up of the site and this time was awarded the grant. The Town initiated a process that resulted in North Shore Community Development Council (NSCDC) being selected to develop the site along with town owned property at 28 School Street. NSCDC asked AHBT to assist their effort to acquire additional adjacent parcel(s) to improve site access and lay out. The Board voted to make \$20,000 from the Trust available for this purpose and is working with Town legal counsel to draft a formal agreement.

Respectively submitted by:

Sandra Venner, Chairperson	Term expires	2018
Laura Dillingham-Mailman	Term expires	2018
Phillip Parry	Term expires	2018
Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello, Secretary	Term expires	2018
Hal Lloyd, Representative of the Board of Selectmen	Term expires	2017
Martha Crook	Term expires	2017
Rick Pinciario (appointed to fill a vacancy May 2016)	Term expires	2017

CABLE 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Merrimac TV completed several upgrades to its equipment and studio space during the year. The Selectman's meeting room was fitted with new cameras, and a state of the art "switcher" allowing the operator to switch between cameras effortlessly. Also, we now have the ability to add graphics and titles to the program. The one problem which remains is the acoustics. The rumbling noise is from the furnace located directly beneath the Selectmen's seats. Lined draperies were added to the room which both enhance the way it looks on television and reduces the noise reverberation. The accomplishment we are proudest of is Sargent Hall, the Town Hall's second floor. With the approval of Town Meeting last year we were allowed to investigate ways to sound proof the Hall to the extent meetings could be held there in which people could actually hear each other. While talking with Bill Hanley, an icon in musical sound systems, he stated, "These rooms were made to be used, not sit empty like mausoleums" The project took a turn. The thought was created that not only should the room be functional but also beautiful. An interior designer, with Hannagan Designs was asked to take a look at it and with her assistance the room was transformed. Lined draperies were created, many of the Historical Society's items were better displayed, padded seating for noise absorption was added. Although the project is not complete, the result to date has surpassed all expectations both functionally and aesthetically. The Hall also has a new sound system. The cameras and equipment which were removed from the Selectmen's room were reinstalled in the Hall thus giving us the ability to tape or broadcast live any event being held there. We thank you for your vote at last year's Meeting--- together we did good!!!!

Merrimac TV continued to broadcast the Selectmen's meetings, the chiefs' breakfasts as well as other events and programs which took place at the Center and Library. The planning board meetings are also aired now and plans are being made to extend coverage of other boards and committees throughout Town. We continue to operate totally on a cable grant from Comcast, with no money to run the department coming from local taxes.

Our greatest pleasure comes when people allow us to share their stories with all of you. Two of our most memorable from last year were Gerry Morenski's program on Margraten, educating all of us on the adoption of the graves of servicemen who lost their lives during WWII by the Dutch people, and that of Capt. George Duffy who was held captive by both the Germans and Japanese. Gerry lost her dad during the war when she was only three years old and all of lost Capt Duffy several weeks ago. We pay homage to all of those that impacted our own lives whether or not we actually ever met them. We look forward to keeping you informed of Town happenings, entertaining you with local events and telling you about the uniqueness of your neighbors.

MERRIMAC COUNCIL ON AGING AND SENIOR CENTER 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

The older population—persons 65 years or older—numbered 46.2 million in 2014 (the latest year for which data is available). They represented 14.5% of the U.S. population, about one in every seven Americans. By 2060, there will be about 98 million older persons, more than twice their number in 2014. (Aol.acl.gov May 24, 2016)

The number of articles related to the growth of the aging population are too numerous to quote. However, some of the highlights include the impact and consequences of an ageing (sic) population on the economy; the social impact of aging populations, decline in working-age population, increase in health care costs, and the increase in dependency ratio all play a part. In an article written by Sara J. Czjia and Joseph Sharit, *The Aging of the Population: Opportunities and Challenges for Human Factor Engineering*, presents ideas and possible solutions to meet the changes as the population ages, continues to work to volunteer, and pursue educational opportunities and activities.

“Human factors engineers can greatly increase the independence and improve the quality of life for older people. Dramatic changes are taking place in the demographic structure of the United States and other countries (Figure 1). An estimated 22 percent of the population will be over the age of 65 by 2030, and the fastest growing cohort within this subgroup will be people over 75. Currently about 44.5 million people are over the age of 75; by 2050 they will number almost 50 million (Figure 1) (NCHS, 2005). Similar changes are occurring worldwide. By 2030 the percentage of people aged 65+ will be about 24 percent in Europe and about 12 percent in Asia and Latin America.

The aging of the population presents vast societal challenges to ensuring that our infrastructures can support the needs of older people enabling them to live healthy, independent, and productive lives. To meet these challenges, we must rethink our conceptualizations of aging and redefine what it means to be “older.” The cohort of older adults today is very different from previous cohorts of older people, and the next cohort of the elderly, who will be mostly “baby boomers” is also likely to be different from today’s elderly.

In general, older people today are healthier, more diverse, and better educated than previous generations, and many are pursuing active lives. For example, many older adults, either out of need or by choice, remain employed in a full- or part-time capacity; some are even pursuing new careers, and many are engaged in volunteer work. The increase in the number of older workers requires changes in government and organizational policies, work procedures, and educational and training systems. Many older people are also engaging in continuing education, recreational activities (e.g., competitive sports), and travel.

Overall, older people are living longer than ever before, and the number of older people reporting very good health and improvements in physical functioning (e.g., the ability to walk a mile or climb stairs) has increased in recent years. Nevertheless, the likelihood of a person developing a disability or chronic illness increases with age. Many older adults are disabled in one or more aspects of self-care and, in general, the elderly require more health care services and incur higher health care costs than younger people. As the elderly population increases and people live longer, more people will require help with aspects of daily living and disease management.” (Excerpt)

The reality of the aging population as it relates to the local level is what will have the greatest impact on social services. Our mission is, “To provide services designed to improve the quality of life of elders by assisting them to remain as physically mobile, mentally alert and socially active as possible. The Council on Aging advocates for older adults, manages the resources needed to develop services, provides education for seniors and their families regarding choices in their care and community services available to them.” If this is our mission, how will this be implemented without a plan to address the increasing aging population and their needs? This is a conversation being held not only in our commonwealth, but across the country and indeed throughout the world.

What does this mean to Merrimac Seniors and community? The COA strives to partner with all departments to meet the challenges of living longer, living healthier as well as helping caregivers, providing transportation to those who can no longer drive, providing nutritional meals, provide food pantry accessibility, find ways to help those who wish to remain in their homes and be independent. We are also trying to integrate our public service without bankrupting the community: our goal is to find ways to provide services and programs that are affordable

The staff at the Council on Aging cross-trains within our department, works with a team approach and collaborates with other departments within Town and other agencies. We also collaborate with other COA's to be able to deliver better programming and services. We would like to thank the Selectmen, Merrimac Fire and Police Departments, E.S.C.A. P.E., the Merrimac Public Health Nurse, Public Health Department, Merrimac Light Department, Merrimac Cultural Council, and the Merrimac DPW; Essex County Sheriff's Dept., Executive Office of Elder Affairs, Elder Services of Merrimack Valley, Community Action, Merrimac Housing Authority and our legislators. We are also grateful for the support from local residents and businesses including Northern Essex Elder Transport (NEET), Merrimack Valley Health Center, MA Commission for the Blind, the Merrimac Lions Club, Steven St. Germain, DDS, and AARP, Serve Pro, the Girl Scouts & Boy Scouts, the chorus students of Merrimac Donaghue & Groveland Bagnall Elementary Schools.

The newly organized Friends of the COA brought back the Senior Scramble fundraiser in June. The money raised from this event along with other donations made throughout the year make it possible for them to support and sponsor the Nutrition Program, Transportation and special events and programs offered at the Senior Center. A special thank you is extended to them for their hard work!

The Council on Aging core programs offered through the Senior Center are: Nutrition (congregate meal site, food pantry); Transportation (COA van and NEET volunteer drivers); Outreach (Identifies Needs, Case Management, Home Visits and Calls), Information and Referrals; and Health & Wellness (Intellectual, Social, Emotional, Vocational, Spiritual, Educational and Physical);, and Activities and Services offered at the Merrimac Senior Center include (but are not limited to):

- AA Meetings
- Advocacy & Representation
- Bingo
- Blood Pressure Clinic
- Book Club & Guest Authors
- Bocce
- Bowling at Leo's
- Breakfast with the Chiefs
- Bridge
- Candidate & Issues Forum
- Caregivers Support Group
- Chair Yoga
- Congregate Meals
- Copying
- Craft Fair-Annual
- Crafters Gift Shoppe
- Crafters Meeting- 1st Wed of Month
- Cribbage
- Cross Stitch
- Cultural and Educational Events/Workshops
- Crochet & Knitting
- DMV-DOT-Registration & License assistance
- Exercise Classes (M/W/TH)
- Friendly Visiting
- Flu Clinics (Seasonal), Vitamin B-12 shots
- 45's Card Game (T)
- Friends of COA Mtg. (1st Tue of Month)
- Friends Senior Scramble
- Free Birthday Lunch
- Health Fair-Annual
- Hearing Clinics
- Holiday Parties
- Ice Cream Socials

Information & Referrals
 Intergenerational Programming
 LGBT Social Connections (3rd Thursday of month at 6:30)
 Library
 Line Dancing (F)
 Low Vision Support Group (Including field trips)
 Group/Speakers
 Lunch Club
 Medical Equipment Lending
 Men's Group
 Movies at the Center
 "Mr. Fix-it"
 Newsletter Committee
 Our Neighbors' Table Food Pantry Site*
 Outreach
 Painting Classes
 Peggy's Senior Food Pantry a Partner of ONT*
 Public Health Nurse – Information & Consulting
 Podiatry (Foot care) Clinics
 Poker
 Pool
 Powerful Tools for Caregivers Classes
 Quilting
 Reassurance Calls
 Rug Hooking
 Seasonal Events
 Senior Health Fair* (4th -Tuesday in Sept.)
 Senior Sing-a-long
 Senior Tax Work Off Program
 SHARPS (needles) Collection
 Site through Town Nurse
 SHINE (Health Insurance Help)
 Shredding (Secure)- Free
 The Centerpiece (Newsletter-Available by mail & Online)
 Travel Club – Day trips, and Guided Travel Tours!
 Tai Chi
 Tai Chi for Balance
 Tax Preparation (seasonal)
 Transportation-Van & Northern Essex Elder Transportaton - (NEET) Volunteer Drivers
 Trips
 Volunteer Opportunities
 Yoga
 Walking Club
 Wii, Wii Tournaments
 Zumba
 (Coming: Social Day Care Respite for Caregivers).

On the fourth Tuesday of September we held the 3rd Annual Health Fair and again it was a huge success thanks to the vendors, volunteers and participants. We lucked out with the weather so everyone was able to enjoy a picnic lunch under the tents and umbrellas. John Buzzell graciously allowed us to use his large tent for the event, setting it up and taking it down for us. We had special programs, and Carol Traynor from our local cable TV interviewed many of the participants. In November, the Crafters held their hugely successful annual Holiday Craft Fair and Café. Thanks to their efforts, they were able to donate nearly \$2,000 to the COA Gift account.

The Senior Center Staff consists of Laura Dillingham-Mailman, Executive Director; Ann Murphy, Administrative Assistant; Eileen Murray, Kitchen Manager & Cook, Cook (PPT); Geraldine Morenski, Outreach Coordinator; Charlotte Eileen Stepanian, Public Health Nurse, MSN, RN-BC; Christina Connor, Senior Aide, Van Driver, Kitchen Asst.; Sandy Blanchet, Volunteer Coordinator; Bonnie Kitsakos, Nutritionist; Nicholas Fiorello, Van Driver; and Wayne Jones, Custodian.

Volunteers are vital to the success of the Senior Center. They keep everything humming-with their enthusiasm, smiles, and “can-do” attitudes! As I have stated in the past, Volunteers lend their expertise and time as drivers, receptionists, dispatchers, kitchen assistants, food pantry organizers, trip leaders, group leaders, tax assistance, craft fair organizers and craft shop participants and handy men providing over 7,000 Volunteer hours* (*This does not include those who don’t remember to sign in to record their hours) of service to the Senior Center. The Senior Center Crafters Showcase and annual Holiday Fair have provided local talented seniors with a way to sell their wares, and support the Senior Center by generously donating 10 per cent of their earnings.

In addition to serving the senior population in Merrimac, as the only Human Services Agency in town we also serve the general population by providing resource information, referrals, counseling, medical equipment, flu shots, blood pressure clinics, and opportunities to volunteer or participate in programs, activities, and more. We also assist friends and families looking for services for their loved one.

The COA would like to thank the Merrimac Public Access Cable TV and Carol Traynor, Manager for outfitting the meeting room at the Senior Center with a sound system and TV for power point presentations, etc. We would also like to thank Carol, Chris Liquori and volunteers for their dedication to finding and taping programs for the benefit of seniors and community in general.

Council on Aging Board Members: Term Expiration:

Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello, Chairwoman	2019
Sgt. David Vance, Assistant Chairman	2018
Candie Benjamin, Secretary	2018
Nancy Bachelder	2018
David Dutton	2018
Betty Lou Elliott	2017
Dorothy Lumsden	2017
Maryann Mikson	2019
James Murphy	2019
Carol Ranshaw	(Resigned)
Natalie Christie	Emeritus

Respectfully Submitted, Laura Dillingham-Mailman, Executive Director

TOWN CLERK ANNUAL REPORT

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Merrimac,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my predecessor, Patricia True for her many years of service to the Town of Merrimac as Town Clerk. Well done, Pat. You served our community with integrity, dedication and endless hours of hard work. May you enjoy many years of health and prosperity in the future. The Clerk's Office continues to be very busy spot, with many changes taking place over the course of the past year, including three elections and the implementation of Early Voting during the State Election in November 2016.

Early Voting was tremendous success in our community with almost 30 percent of our registered voters taking advantage during the early voting period. 1452 voters took the opportunity to vote early at Town Hall. This proved to be a great experience for our residents who visited Town Hall and the recently updated Sargent Hall. With so many voters participating in Early Voting it helped alleviate congestion and long waiting periods at the Polls the day of the Election.

Many thanks to every department who helped make Early Voting in Merrimac a great success. The staff at Town Hall, who helped voters find their way to Sargent's Hall, the Students from Pentucket who helped at the Polls, and every Poll Worker who made each day of Early Voting a pleasure for our voters. Everyone's commitment to our voting process and embracing the changes Early Voting placed upon us, made this a very successful process, Thank you!

2016 Registered Dogs

Male	31
Female	8
Neutered	281
Spayed	246
Total	566

2016 Vital Statistics

Marriage Intentions	19
Marriage Certificates	18
Births	58
Deaths	44

Respectfully Submitted,
Gwendolyn Lay Sabbagh
Town Clerk

**ANNUAL REPORT
BOARD of TRUSTEES
MERRIMAC PUBLIC LIBRARY
For the year ending December 31, 2016**

To the citizens of Merrimac:

The trustees of Merrimac Public Library are pleased to report that the year 2016 has been yet another in the long continuum of excellent library services being provided to our appreciative patrons by our talented and dedicated library staff under the capable supervision of library director Martina Follansbee.

The library trustees present here a summary of the highlights of library matters dealing with policy and the overall management of operations. A description of the many specific library programs and services conducted during the year will be found in the library director's portion of this report.

In the category of library policy, there were two issues that required a considerable amount of time and effort to properly address. The first involved a request by the trustees of a neighboring town library to allow their citizens to have full lending privileges to all of Merrimac's collection during the period that their library had been decertified by the Board of Library Commissioners. The reason for their change in status involved fiscal difficulties in the management of their annual library budget. After careful deliberation, the Merrimac trustees decided to uphold the standard maintained by the Board of Library Commissioners to not lend to decertified libraries so as to constrain Massachusetts cities and towns to properly fund their libraries. We are pleased to see that the requesting library has since corrected the flaws in their operation and now qualify for certification.

The second policy issue sprang from a complaint by a patron over the library being closed on a winter day that started in the early morning with snow, wind, slippery roads, and school cancellation; but by noon had cleared to be sunny and bright with bare roads. Ultimately, after reviewing the flaws in our original policy and carefully sampling the policies of many other area towns, an entirely new "Weather and Emergency Closure Policy" was drafted and adopted which now addresses, in a simpler and clearer format, all of the variables missed before. Compliments on the results, especially by other town officials, have been very gratifying.

Continued difficulties with the HVAC systems presented many problems during the past year. The most serious of these involved the failure of the controls that regulate the air conditioning units during the hottest days of summer. Commendably, the library director handled each individual crisis with calmness and intelligent corrective action. Furthermore, the director has put forth a comprehensive plan to thoroughly rectify the major flaws in the system. As a long-term capital improvement, she has shepherded this project through the several steps to have the money approved (\$20,000) at next year's annual town meeting.

Other building maintenance issues of significance involved locating and patching a bothersome leak in the roof over the staff office section of the library and the repair of plaster and painting in the children's area.

In the fall we were disappointed to learn that library trustee Linda Getz would be resigning from the board, for personal reasons, effective October 12th, 2016. It was always a pleasure to work with Linda and we wish her well in her future endeavors. At the same time we were fortunate to have long-time Merrimac resident Paul D. Kimbrell volunteer to fill Linda's position on the board until the annual election in May of 2017.

At a trustee's meeting on December 14th, director Martina Follansbee announced that she would be retiring in the middle of 2017. Tina also indicated, in her characteristically responsible and professional way, that she planned to be available to help the new director learn the basics of the job and assist in introducing her/him to the town hall personnel and other department heads. Tina has been our library director for twelve years of excellent service. We will be especially hard pressed to find a replacement that can match her "people skills". Every trustee is moved and saddened to be facing this change but also completely understanding and happy for her to have this well earned opportunity to slow down the pace of life and have the time to enjoy and pursue her personal interests more.

The list of individuals and groups to be thanked for their valuable help during the year is as follows (in no particular order):

Friends of the Library	Providing supplementary and enrichment funding, and conducting excellent programs and events.
Merrimac Cultural Council	Annual grant to support our Exhibits Advisor, Catherine Dullea.
Merrimac Highway Dept.	Snow plowing , lawn mowing, and manpower whenever needed.
Our team of Volunteers	Accurate, dependable, and cheerful help for the library staff.
Betty Emery & Donna Kolifrath	Creative, theme centered, and skillfully arranged showcase exhibits

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Coburn, Chair.
Jennifer Brown
Yvonne D. Cosgrove
Jeffrey W. Hoyt
Paul D. Kimbrell
Susan Kern

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

People love coming to the library. We recently learned of libraries throughout the country providing red hearts to patrons and inviting them to write what they like about their libraries. It sounded like a fun idea, and the Children's Librarians cut out lots of hearts. We received about 60 hearts which we hung on the doors with everything from, "I love story-time" and "I love all the books about trucks" to "I love all the places I've been through the books in the library." There were lots of compliments about the staff - "the sweetest librarians on the planet" and, my favorite, "All the things I enjoy are at the library: books, music, movies, fun activities and meeting new people."

We love that the residents of Merrimac are happy with the library. We take great care every year to choose collection materials with wide appeal and offer programs for all ages and interests. Among all the children's programs of 2016, we had the largest attendance with the reading of Kate Carol's timely book, "I Speak Peace." Kate is a popular first-grade teacher at the Sweetsir School and her book teaches children how to speak peace with their words, their actions, and their feelings. It is a positive message about respecting everyone's differences and living together peacefully.

Equally successful in August was McDonny's Traveling Petting Farm from Derry, NH. They brought ducks, chickens, rabbits, a goat and a pony. Everyone got a turn to pet all the animals and they loved it! Live animals always seem to draw a crowd but this is one of the best animal programs we've had.

Splat the Cat was a fun program in April. We had ordered a costume for the program that turned out to be heavy and required a person to be a certain height to wear it. The Children's Librarians were able to convince our UPS driver, Joe Fournier, to be Splat. The books are popular, and children got their picture taken with Splat if they wanted. Another program that went over particularly well was the Warm Paws fleece tie blanket project in February. It was for ages 12 and up, including some adults. People were asked to bring donations of pet food and treats/toys, and they made 16 fleece blankets that were donated to the MSPCA.

Some of the popular adult/teen programs of 2016 included a book-signing by the author of "Rescue Road;" One Tail at a Time, a local dog rescue group brought puppies! In October, we had an instructor-led painting class, Paint Along with Alicia. The class appealed to both adults and teens, and each participant left with a completed piece of art.

A much talked about program in March was the finale screening of PBS's Downton Abbey series. Tracy managed to secure the final show before it was shown on television and people were eager to see it. High tea was served, and participants played a trivia game involving the series characters.

In addition to library programming, the library Meeting Room is used all year by a variety of local groups and we have been lucky the last few years to have an Exhibits Advisor, Catherine Dullea, to arrange for art to brighten library and Meeting Room walls. Groups that use the room regularly really enjoy the colorful arrangements. The most remarked on exhibit of 2016 was exquisite hanging quilts, created by local resident Brenda Patterson. People came from many surrounding towns to view the collection. We all were disappointed when it was time to take down the display; and we look forward to exhibiting more of Brenda's quilts in June.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martina Follansbee, Director

2016 ANNUAL REPORT OF OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

As in the past few years, the Open Space Committee has primarily worked on updating the 2006-2010 Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Committee Chair led the effort in redrafting the plan and coordinating data collection and development of maps with Merrimack Valley Planning Council (MVPC). A public forum was held on March 24th to present the results of the survey that had been conducted the prior year and to get further input into the recommendations. In November, the draft updated Open Space and Recreation Plan for 2016-2020 was submitted to the Merrimack Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission and Planning Board and the MVPC for letters of approval. Once all approvals are received, it will be submitted to state DHCD for acceptance. When the Open Space Plan is accepted, expense funds will be used to make hard copies available as well posting it at the Town website.

The Open Space Committee reached out to the newly formed Playground Committee to invite them to discuss potential sites for installing play equipment for young children and grant opportunities to help cover the costs. Although the Open Space Committee expressed a willingness to recommend the use of unspent special article funds for grant writing purposes, the members of Playground Committee have not pursued this.

Essex County Greenbelt Association (ECGA) expressed an interest in purchasing a parcel of land off of Battis Road adjacent to the Town Forest. The Committee greatly supports this effort and is prepared to recommend use of funds in the Open Space account to assist the purchase, if the sale moves forward.

Acreage permanently preserved as open space has increased in the town as a result of zoning options available to developers. Designated open space is a requirement for the new over 55 developments at Veterans Way and Freedom Way and the recently approved Regency development off West Main Street. It is also designated in the new Open Space Residential Developments at Madison Way, Poplar Hill, and Abbey Road.

The Open Space Committee did not need to expend its expense funds in FY'16 as it had sufficient supplies on hand.

Respectively submitted by:
Carrie Rennie, Chair
Mel Briggie
Sandra Venner

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

I hereby submit my report as Sealer of Weights and Measures for the Town of Merrimac from January 1st 2016 to December 31st 2016. I have inspected, sealed, and adjusted or condemned a total of 23 measuring units. Fees totaling \$695.00 were billed. Below is a detailed summery

Respectfully submitted

Leonard Rose
Inspector of Weights and Measures

- Edgemont - near Kenoza: 4/11/16 \$15
- Sweetsir School -104 Church St: 9/29/16 no charge
- Donaghue School - 24 Union Extension : 9/29/16 no charge
- Brox - 10 North St : 4/11/16 \$275
- Citgo- 28 Broad St: 12/8/16 \$60
- Merrimac Sports- 130 E Main St: 12/8/16 \$40
- Edgemont - near Kenoza: 12/8/16 \$285
- Common Grounds -101E. Main St: 12/8/16 \$10
- Cozy Cleaners - 4 E Main St: 12/8/16 \$ 10 In total \$695 dollars.

2016
TOWN OF MERRIMAC RETIREES

Carol Denault
Light Department

Geraldine Gozycki
Tax Collector

Stephen Ringuette
Police Sergeant

Patricia True
Town Clerk

Debra Weinhold
Inspectional Services

Best wishes on your retirement!

OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK
2 School Street, Town Hall
Merricac, MA 01860
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, APRIL 25, 2016

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108 as amended: Town Clerk, three Assessors, three Commissioners of Municipal Light, and raise, appropriate or transfer sums of money therefore and to determine sums of money raised to be transferred to defray the necessary and usual charges and expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2016 and make appropriations for the same, said sums of money so raised, appropriated or transferred to be expended for specific purposes to be voted; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108 as amended: Town Clerk, three Assessors, three Commissioners of Municipal Light, and raise, appropriate or transfer sums of money therefore and to determine sums of money raised to be transferred to defray the necessary and usual charges and expenses of the Town for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2016 and make appropriations for the same, said sums of money so raised, appropriated or transferred to be expended for specific purposes to be voted.

General Government.....	790,543
Public Safety	1,754,232
Whittie	916,605
Pentucket.....	7,501,877
Essex-North Shore	81,315
Highway.....	531,077
Landfill.....	30,000
Cemetery	50,097
Health & Sanitation	65,567
Public Assistance	341,463
Library	280,328
Maturing Debt.....	422,238
Interest On Maturing Debt.....	95,317
Unclassified.....	916,967
Total Omnibus.....	13,777,626

And that \$ 13,777,626 be raised as follows:

Raise & Appropriate: \$ 13,772,626
Transfer WPAT Receipts Reserved: \$ 5,000

Hand Vote: Unanimous
Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY
ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Wastewater Department Enterprise; or take any other action relative thereto.

Salaries:	\$ 351,596
Expenses:	\$ 588,309
Debt Service:	\$ 217,890
Total	\$ 1,157,795

And that \$ 1,157,795 be raised as follows:

Departmental Receipts:	\$ 1,112,795
Wastewater Betterment Fund:	\$ 45,000

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 2. The Town voted to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Wastewater Department Enterprise.

Salaries:	\$ 351,596
Expenses:	\$ 588,309
Debt Service:	\$ 217,890
Total	\$ 1,157,795

And that \$ 1,157,795 be raised as follows:

Departmental Receipts:	\$ 1,112,795
Wastewater Betterment Fund:	\$ 45,000

Hand Vote: Unanimous

Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Water Department Enterprise; or take any other action relative thereto.

Salaries:	\$ 264,445
Expenses:	\$ 416,792
Debt Service:	\$ 306,713
Total	\$ 987,950

And that \$ 987,950 be raised as follows:

Departmental Receipts: \$ 987,950

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 3: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Water Department Enterprise.

Salaries:	\$ 264,445
Expenses:	\$ 416,792
Debt Service:	\$ 306,713
Total	\$ 987,950

And that \$ 987,950 be raised as follows:

Departmental Receipts: \$ 987,950

Hand Vote: Unanimous

Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to fund the operations of the Cable Television Department; or take any other action relative thereto.

Salaries:	\$ 49,893
Expenses:	\$ 85,500
Total	\$ 135,393

And that \$ 135,393 be transferred from the Cable Television Receipts Reserved Account.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 4: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to fund the operations of the Cable Television Department.

Salaries:	\$ 49,893
Expenses:	\$ 85,500
Total	\$ 135,393

Hand Vote: Unanimous
Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money from the Electric Light Operating Balance said money to be used by the Assessors to reduce the Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2017; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 5: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money from the Electric Light Operating Balance said money to be used by the Assessors to reduce the Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2017.

Hand Vote: Unanimous
Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$10,740 to be expended by the Board of Assessors to hire a consultant to perform an independent revaluation; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 6: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$10,740 to be expended by the Board of Assessors to hire a consultant to perform an independent revaluation.

Hand Vote: Unanimous
Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$ 7,600 from available funds known as “Sale of Cemetery Lots”, such sum or part thereof, to be expended under the direction of the Cemetery Trustees for the care, improvement and embellishment of said cemeteries, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 114, Section 15 and Section 25; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 7: The Town voted to transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$ 7,600 from available funds known as “Sale of Cemetery Lots”, such sum or part thereof, to be expended under the direction of the Cemetery Trustees for the care, improvement and embellishment of said cemeteries, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 114, Section 15 and Section 25.

Hand Vote: Unanimous

Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$125,500, to be used to make necessary repairs to Town roadways; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 8: The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$125,500, to be used to make necessary repairs to Town roadways.

Hand Vote: Unanimous

Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to accept the State Grant of Chapter 90 Highway Funds and authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend said funds for Highway purposes in accordance with the terms of said grants; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 9: The Town voted to accept the State Grant of Chapter 90 Highway Funds and authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend said funds for Highway purposes in accordance with the terms of said grants.

Hand Vote; Unanimous

Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$285,000 for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal, Recycling Collection and Leaf Collection; or take any other action relative thereto.

And that \$ 285,000 be raised as follows:

Raise and Appropriate:	\$ 153,000
Transfer from Trash Offset Receipts:	\$ 132,000

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 10: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$285,000 for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal, Recycling Collection and Leaf Collection.

Hand Vote: Unanimous

Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, to establish revolving funds for the following departments for the specific purpose outlined below for the Fiscal Year 2016; or take any other action relative thereto.

a. Police Firearms Revolving Fund

Fees received for firearms licenses and permit fees to be used to pay the state share of such fees and similar departmental needs, said expenditures to be approved by the Police Chief; and not to exceed \$5,000 during the Fiscal Year 2017.

b. Zoning Board of Appeal Revolving Fund

c. Fees received for applicants requesting appeal of zoning decisions to be used to pay for advertising, mailings, legal and administrative costs, said expenditures to be approved by the Zoning Board of Appeals; not to exceed \$4,000 during the Fiscal Year 2017.

d. Board of Health Town Nurse Revolving Fund

Fees received for nursing programs and services to be used by the Town Nurse to pay for materials and technical services for nursing programs and health promotion programs, said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Health; not to exceed \$10,000 during Fiscal Year 2017.

e. Zoning Bylaw and Building Code Compliance Enforcement Revolving Fund

5% of all fees received from building, wiring, plumbing and gas permits plus 100% of all fines and monetary judgments received as a result of Inspectional Services Department compliance enforcement actions to be used by Inspectional Services Department for legal fees and administrative costs relative to Zoning Bylaw and Building Code compliance enforcement actions; said expenditures to be approved by the Building Commissioner, not to exceed \$15,000 during Fiscal Year 2017.

f. Board of Health Project Revolving Fund

50% of all permit fees received for the Bear Hill Road and Quail Ridge/Battis Road Subdivisions to be used by the Board of Health to pay for tests and inspections for these two projects; said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Health; not to exceed \$4,500 during the Fiscal Year 2017.

g. Board of Health Revolving Fund

80% of fees received from pre-rental inspections and re-inspections to be used to pay for the Health Agent's inspections, the remaining 20% of fees, and 100% of all fines and monetary judgments received as a result of Board of Health compliance enforcement actions to be used by the Board of Health for legal

fees and administrative costs relative to the Board of Health Regulations and Health Code compliance and enforcement actions; said expenditures are to be approved by the Board of Health and are not to exceed \$4,000 during the Fiscal Year 2017.

h. Inspectional Services Inspection Revolving Fund

70% of all fees received from building, wiring, plumbing and gas to be used by Inspectional Services Department for costs relative to required inspections for the Inspectional Services Department; said expenditures to be approved by the Building Commissioner, not to exceed \$80,000 during Fiscal Year 2017.

i. PRSD Revolving Account

Funds received from PRSD will be used to pay for grounds maintenance at the Sweetsir and Donaghue Schools; said expenditures to be approved by the Board of Selectmen; not to exceed \$50,000 during the Fiscal Year 2017.

j. Tax Title Revolving Account

Funds received from tax title payments for legal fees, charges and other associated costs through the tax title redemption process may be used to pay related costs incurred in tax title foreclosure actions undertaken by the Town; said expenditures to be approved by the Finance Director; expenditures from fund may not exceed \$5,000 during the Fiscal Year 2017.

COPY OF THE VOTE: May 9, 2016

ARTICLE 11. Typographical error found and amended as follow: Fiscal Year 2016; to Fiscal Year 2017;

The Town voted pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, to establish revolving funds for the aforementioned departments for the specific purpose outlined above for the Fiscal Year 2017;

Hand Vote: Unanimous
Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY
ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$60,000, for additional closure activities at the Battis Rd. Landfill; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: May 9, 2016

Article 12: The Town voted to raise and appropriate from available funds, a sum of money in the amount of \$60,000, for additional closure activities at the Battis Rd. Landfill.

Hand Vote
YES 52
NO 3
Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY
ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, management and control of the real property described in this article from the board currently having care, custody, management and control for the purpose for which the property is now held to the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes and the purpose of conveyance; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey, pursuant to the requirements of General Laws Chapter 30B, Section 16, the parcel of surplus land with any buildings thereon, containing about 1.59 Acres, located at 2 Littles Court , shown on Assessors Map 3-1-7, 3-1-8, 3-1-18A, and 3-1-20, , as indicated on the Assessors Map on file in the office of the Town Clerk on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen may determine; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute any and all documents and instruments as necessary to effectuate the purpose of this article; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: May 9, 2016

Article 13: The Town voted to transfer the care, custody, management and control of the real property described in this article from the board currently having care, custody, management and control for the purpose for which the property is now held to the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes and the purpose of conveyance; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey, pursuant to the requirements of General Laws Chapter 30B, Section 16, the parcel of surplus land with any buildings thereon, containing about 1.59 Acres, located at 2 Littles Court , shown on Assessors Map 3-1-7, 3-1-8, 3-1-18A, and 3-1-20, , as indicated on the Assessors Map on file in the office of the Town Clerk on such terms and conditions as the Selectmen may determine; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute any and all documents and instruments as necessary to effectuate the purpose of this article.

2/3 Vote required

YES 64

NO 1

Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, to establish a Playground Revolving Account, funds received from fundraising events to be used to pay costs associated with the maintenance and enhancement of the Town's Playgrounds, said expenditures to be approved by the Playground Committee; expenditures not to exceed \$10,000 during the Fiscal Year 2017; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: May 9, 2016

Article 14: The Town voted pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, to establish a Playground Revolving Account, funds received from fundraising events to be used to pay costs associated with the maintenance and enhancement of the Town's Playgrounds, said expenditures to be approved by the Playground Committee; expenditures not to exceed \$10,000 during the Fiscal Year 2017.

Hand Vote

YES 48

NO 1

Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical District Committee's vote on February 10, 2016 to establish a Stabilization Fund, pursuant to Section 16G ½ of Chapter 71 of the Massachusetts General Laws, said Stabilization Fund to be invested and to retain its own interest earnings as provided by law and further set up an operational line item to be created to transfer available monies into said Stabilization Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE:

Article 15: The Town voted to approve the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical District Committee's vote on February 10, 2016 to establish a Stabilization Fund, pursuant to Section 16G ½ of Chapter 71 of the Massachusetts General Laws, said Stabilization Fund to be invested and to retain its own interest earnings as provided by law and further set up an operational line item to be created to transfer available monies into said Stabilization Fund.

Hand Vote: Unanimous

Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Merrimac General By-Laws, Article XV, Cemetery Trustees, Section V, #3 by deleting the words "Foundations and", sentence now to read "Corners markers are included in the sale of lots."; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: May 9, 2016

Article 16: The Town voted to amend the Town of Merrimac General By-Laws, Article XV, Cemetery Trustees, Section V, #3 by deleting the words "Foundations and", sentence now to read "Corners markers are included in the sale of lots."

2/3 Vote required

YES 64

NO 1

Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to accept the amendment to MGL, Chapter 59, Section 5K, as amended by Chapter 27 of the Acts of 2009, and to increase the maximum amount of the deduction that eligible seniors may take on their property tax bill from the current limit of \$750 to the limit of \$1000, said \$1000 limit to become effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: May 9, 2016

Article 17: The Town voted to accept the amendment to MGL, Chapter 59, Section 5K, as amended by Chapter 27 of the Acts of 2009, and to increase the maximum amount of the deduction that eligible seniors may take on their property tax bill from the current limit of \$750 to the limit of \$1,000, said \$1000 limit to become effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016.

Hand Vote: Unanimous

Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac General By-Laws, Article XVI, Regulation of Sewer Use, by deleting any reference to “Board of Sewer Commissioners” and replacing with “Board of Selectmen, or their designee”; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: May 9, 2016

Article 18: The Town voted to amend the Merrimac General By-Laws, Article XVI, Regulation of Sewer Use, by deleting any reference to “Board of Sewer Commissioners” and replacing with “Board of Selectmen, or their designee”.

2/3 Vote required
Unanimous
Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac General By-Laws by adding the Commercial and Institutional Deliveries by-Law as follows:

Article XII, Section 16: Commercial and Institutional Deliveries

The collection of refuse and the pickup, delivery, loading, unloading, and collection of goods or materials and waste materials to or from any commercial or institutional property shall be prohibited between the hours of 11:00 pm and 6:00 am. The Board of Selectmen is authorized to promulgate regulations to implement this Bylaw. The regulations may include definitions of the terms used in this Bylaw, as well as exemptions for certain deliveries and/or pickups in cases of hardship or emergency.

COPY OF THE VOTE: May 9, 2016

Article 19: The town voted to amend the Merrimac General By-laws by adding the Commercial and Institutional Deliveries by law as written above.

2/3 Vote required
Unanimous
Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac General By-Laws by the Noise By-Law as follows:

Article XII, Section 15: Regulation of certain types of activities.

General By-Law Chapter XX: Noise

A. For the purpose of controlling and abating disturbing noise, which either annoys, disturbs, injures, or endangers the reasonable quiet, comfort, repose, health, or safety of others within the Town of Merrimac, and to maintain and promote tranquility of residential neighborhoods, certain types of activities will be regulated.

B. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to operate or cause to be operated any type of construction machinery powered by any internal combustion or diesel engine including but not limited to; heavy earthmoving equipment, materials handling equipment, logging and land clearing equipment, pumps, generators, and air compressors; during certain hours of the day, unless specifically authorized by the appropriate licensing or permitting authority.

C. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to operate or cause to be operated certain types of electrically powered equipment associated with construction activity including but not limited to; air-actuated nailing guns, circular saws, drills and the like, that are utilized for the purpose of building or assembling

construction materials, during certain hours of the day, unless specifically authorized by the appropriate licensing or permitting authority.

D. The aforementioned equipment and activities may only be utilized or carried out from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, excluding legal holidays. Saturday hours 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. The aforementioned equipment and activities may not begin Sundays and legal holidays, unless a permit to perform such work or labor has been secured in accordance with MGL c. 136, §7 from the Board of Selectmen by application, on or before Wednesday proceeding that Sunday or legal holiday. Application fee is ten dollars.

Exemptions. None of the terms or prohibitions shall apply or be enforced against:

a. Emergency vehicles. Any police, fire, or ambulance vehicles while engaged in necessary emergency business.

b. Highway and utility maintenance or construction. Necessary excavation in, or repairs to bridges, streets, highways, or any public utility installation by, or on behalf of the Town, public utility, or agency of the State of Massachusetts.

c. Public address. The reasonable use of amplifiers or loudspeakers for public addresses which are noncommercial in nature.

Penalties.

The first violation of this Bylaw shall be a warning. The second violation of this Bylaw within 12 months after the first violation shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$200. Further violations within 12 months after the last violation shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$300. Each such act, which either continues or is repeated more than ½ hour after the issuance of a written notice of violation of this Bylaw shall be a separate offense and shall be prosecuted as separate offense. The third offense will result in loss of Drain Layer License for one year. If the violation occurs on the premises of rental property which has a nonresident owner, then the owner must also be notified in writing that the violation has occurred; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: May 9, 2016

Article 20: The Town voted to Table Article 20.

2/3 Vote required

YES 62

NO 4

Article Tabled

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Merrimac General By-Laws by the Snow Removal By-Law as follows:

Article V, Section 10: Snow Removal By-Law

(1) Purpose: Since pedestrians are safer when walking on sidewalks than when walking in the streets used by vehicular traffic, the purpose of this section is to encourage owners of all property to remove the snow, slush, and ice from abutting sidewalks so that sidewalks throughout the Town are safe for use during the winter season, and so that the Town's local services and amenities are reasonably accessible by pedestrians via sidewalks, especially by elderly persons, persons using wheel chairs, persons using carriages to transport children, and students walking to school.

- (2) Definitions. For the purpose of this Section, the following terms shall have the following definitions:
- (a) OBLIGATED PERSON- the person responsible for compliance with this Subsection pursuant to Paragraph (4)
 - (b) SIDEWALK- a paved walkway (weather paved with brick, stone, cement, concrete, asphalt, or other impervious material) that is located within the right-of-way of a street that abuts residential property.
- (3) Obligations. Snow, slush, and ice shall be removed from the sidewalk, in accordance with the deadlines set forth in Paragraph (5), to a width of at least 36 inches or, if the sidewalk is narrower than 36 inches, for the full width of the sidewalk.
- (4) Obligated Persons. The owner of record of a property abutting a right-of-way in which a sidewalk is located shall be obligated to comply with this Section within that portion of the right-of-way to which the property abuts, unless the owner of record can demonstrate that this obligation has been duly delegated to a responsible person, identified by name and address, by a written agreement signed by the person so delegated or by an express reference to the obligation in a written lease.
- (5) Deadlines for Removal and Treatment.
- (a) After the cessation of a weather event that has resulted in snow, slush, or ice on a sidewalk, the snow, slush, or ice shall be removed no later than 8 p.m. the following day, and the sidewalk shall be treated with melting compounds, sand, or other grit, as reasonably necessary to inhibit slipping. Regardless of this deadline, Obligated Persons are encouraged to remove snow, slush and ice promptly from the full width of the sidewalks in order to minimize the ice formed on the sidewalk when snow or ice melts and refreezes, so that neighbors and others can use the sidewalks as soon as possible.
 - (b) Treatment of ice that forms on sidewalks shall be accomplished no later than 8 p.m. on the day after the ice has formed, but Obligated Persons are encouraged to treat the ice promptly so that neighbors and others can use the sidewalks as soon as possible.
 - (c) The deadlines set forth in this Subsection shall be extended for Obligated Persons who are temporarily absent from the residential property for vacations, holiday, hospitalization, and unexpected absences; provided, however, that such Obligated Persons shall be required to complete their removal and treatment obligations by 8 p.m. on the day following the end of their temporary absence.
- (6) Rules and Regulations. The Board of Selectmen may adopt rules and regulations further implementing this Section, including, without limitation, provisions and hearing procedures for exemptions from the requirements of this Section for Obligated Persons who are physically unable to perform the obligations themselves and have a bona fide financial hardship; provided, however, that exemptions granted to such Obligated Persons shall be void if the Obligated Person causes portions of the residential property to be cleared of snow, slush, or ice for vehicular access from the street.
- (7) Fines. Fines for violations of this Section shall be on the following schedule: First offense – written warning, second offense - \$50, Third and successive offenses - \$ 100 each, to a maximum of \$ 350 per winter season (October 1 – April 30). In situations where there is more than one Obligated Person, such fines may be assessed jointly or individually. No more than one fine may be assessed with respect to any single weather event requiring removal or treatment of snow, slush or ice.
- (8) Enforcement
- (a) A person who is an “Enforcing Person”, as defined in Subsection 10, shall take appropriate action with respect to observed or reported violations of this Section

(b) An Enforcing Person cognizant of such a violation, shall promptly send the alleged offender a non-criminal written citation thereof by hand delivery or mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the owner of record.

(c) An owner of record who receives a citation pursuant to this Subsection shall have 20 days thereafter to pay the applicable fine or to provide to the Enforcing Person a photocopy of the written agreement or lease used to delegate the obligation to comply with this Section, in which case the owner of record shall not be responsible for paying any applicable fine, and the Enforcing Person may dismiss or modify the citation or reissue the citation to the Obligated Person as is deemed appropriate.

(d) If a citation is not dismissed and the fine is not timely paid, the provisions of Subsection 10, other than those establishing penalties, shall be applicable.

(9) Not Evidence. Except as required by applicable law, violations of this Section shall not be admissible as evidence of negligence in any civil proceeding brought by an injured third party against an Obligated Person, tenant, or owner of record.

(10) In addition to the provisions for enforcement set forth elsewhere in this Bylaw, the Bylaw may also be enforced by non-criminal disposition as provided in MGL c. 40, §21D. The penalty for such violation shall be \$300 for each offense. Each day or part thereof shall constitute a separate offense.

(a) “Enforcing person” as used in this subsection shall mean any police officer of the Town, the Director of Public Works and any other Town employee designated by the Board of Selectmen as an enforcing person.

(b) An enforcing person cognizant of a violation of Subsection A, B, D(2), E(2), G, H, or I or any rule or regulation adopted hereunder shall give the offender a written notice to appear before the Clerk of the District Court having jurisdiction thereof for the noncriminal disposition thereof in accordance with the provisions of §21D. The provisions of §21D are incorporated herein by this reference.

Approved Rules and Regulation – Snow Removal By-Law

(1) Determination of compliance with the Bylaw regarding the removal and treatment of snow, ice or slush shall not occur before 8 p.m. as described in Section 5 of the Bylaw.

(2) Homeowners who have an approved Clause 37A (Blind Exemption), 41C (Elderly Exemption) or Clause 22 (Veteran Disability Exemption) from the Merrimac Board of Assessors as of October 1 each year shall be exempted from the requirements of the Residential Snow bylaw for the winter season which begins October 1 through April 30. However, homeowners exempted from the Bylaw are encouraged to comply voluntarily.

(3) A temporary absence as referenced in Section 5, item C shall be defined to be no more than 5 calendar days.

(4) The Board of Selectmen will be responsible for the overall administration of the enforcement provisions of this Bylaw.; or take any other action relative thereto.

Rationale: To explain and establish that the outdated “common law rule” in which the property owner, both private and commercial, could simply leave naturally accumulated snow and ice untreated and escape liability and thereby setting forth the “Snow Removal Bylaw” to bring the town in compliance with MSJC ruling. Requested by Robert Sinibaldi, DPW Director

2/3 vote required

COPY OF THE VOTE: May 9, 2016

ARTICLE 21: The Town voted not to approve By-Law amendment as stated above.

2/3 Vote required

YES 24

NO 25

Article Did Not Pass

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to accept, as a Town way, the layout of the road known as “Madison Way”, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire the land, rights, and easements therein for roadway, drainage, utility, or other purposes, all shown on a plan prepared by Atlantic Engineering & Survey Consultants Inc. dated February 24, 2016, entitled “Street Acceptance Plan at Madison Way (Bear Hill) in Merrimac, Mass.”; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: May 9, 2016

Article 22: the Town voted to accept, as a Town way, the layout of the road known as “Madison Way”, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire the land, rights, and easements therein for roadway, drainage, utility, or other purposes, all shown on a plan prepared by Atlantic Engineering & Survey Consultants Inc. dated February 24, 2016, entitled “Street Acceptance Plan at Madison Way (Bear Hill) in Merrimac, Mass.”

Hand Vote: Unanimous

Article Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, APRIL 25, 2016

**APRIL 25, 2016
COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT**

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, a sum of money in the amount of \$439,506 for the following specific purposes outlined below; or take any other action relative thereto.

a. Training, Sick and Vacation Payouts.....	\$ 45,000
b. Salary Compensation Study Update	\$ 6,500
c. Insurance Revolving	\$ 10,000
d. DPW/Highway Roller Trailer	\$ 4,500
e. Police SUV Patrol Vehicle	\$ 45,000
f. DPW/Highway Used Street Sweeper	\$ 35,000
g. DPW/Cemetery.....	\$ 20,000
h. DPW/Parks & Recreation	\$ 12,000
i. Sweetsir Painting	\$ 25,000
j. Donaghue Flooring	\$ 20,000
k. Playground.....	\$ 20,000
l. OPEB Trust Funding	\$125,000
m. Ambulance Stabilization Funding (2/3 Vote).....	\$ 20,000
n. Capital Stabilization Funding (2/3 Vote)	\$ 51,506

COPY OF THE VOTE: April 25, 2016

Article 1. The Town voted to appropriate from Free Cash, a sum of money in the amount of \$439,506 (Four hundred thirty nine thousand five hundred six) for the specific purposes outlined above.

Items a-k: Hand Vote: Unanimous - all adopted
Item l: Hand Vote: Unanimous - adopted
Item m & n: 2/3 Vote Required Unanimous - adopted.

A True Copy:
Attest: Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING: APRIL 25, 2016

COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Water Retained Earnings a sum of money in the amount of \$225,000 for the following specific purposes outlined below; or take any other action relative thereto.

a. CAPITAL ITEMS	\$205,000
i. Water Main Replacement.....	\$175,000
ii. Water Meter Replacement	\$ 30,000
b. OPEB Trust Funding.....	\$ 20,000

COPY OF THE VOTE: APRIL 25, 2016

Article 2. The Town voted to appropriate from Water Retained Earnings a sum of money in the amount of \$225,000 (Two hundred twenty five thousand) for the following specific purposes outlined below.

a. Capital Items	\$205,000
i. Water Main Replacement.....	\$175,000
ii. Water Meter Replacement	\$30,000
b. OPEB Trust Funding.....	\$20,000

Hand Vote: Unanimous
Adopted

A True Copy
Attest: Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING: APRIL 25, 2016
COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Inspectional Services Revolving Fund a sum of money in the amount of \$120,000 to the General Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: April 25, 2016

Article 3. The Town voted to transfer from Inspectional Services Revolving Fund, a sum of money in the amount of \$120,000 (One hundred twenty thousand) to the General Fund.

Hand vote: Unanimous
Adopted

A True Copy
Attest: Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING: April 25, 2016
COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Water Department Enterprise Fund a sum of money in the amount of \$42,000 to the General Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: April 25, 2016

Article 4. The Town voted to transfer the balance in the amount of \$42,000 (Forty two thousand) from the funds authorized in Article 1 (M) of the April 27, 2015 Special Town Meeting, Water Main Improvements on Little's Court, D to the General Fund.

Hand Vote: Unanimous
Adopted

A True Copy
Attest: Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING: April 25, 2016
COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money in the amount of \$11,750 from Ambulance Stabilization Account to purchase ALS Equipment needed to upgrade the services; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: April 25, 2016

Article 5. The Town voted to transfer a sum of money in the amount of \$11,750 (Eleven thousand seven hundred fifty) from the Ambulance Stabilization Account to purchase ALS Equipment needed to upgrade the services.

Hand Vote: Unanimous
Adopted

A True Copy

Attest: Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING: APRIL 25, 2016

April 25, 2016 - COPY OF ARTICLE WARRANT

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to accept MGL Chapter 44 Section 53F $\frac{3}{4}$ which establishes a special revenue fund known as Peg Access and Cable Related Fund, to reserve cable franchise fees and other cable-related revenues for appropriation to support PEG access services and oversight, renewal of cable franchise agreement, and to fund operations for FY2016, which begins July 1, 2015; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: April 25, 2016

Article 6. The Town voted to accept MGL Chapter 44 Section 53 $\frac{3}{4}$, which establishes a special revenue fund known as Peg Access and Cable Related Fund, to reserve cable franchise fees and other cable-related revenues for appropriation to support PEG access services and oversight, renewal of the cable franchise agreement, and to fund operations for FY 2017 which begins July 1, 2016.

Hand Vote: Unanimous
Adopted

A true Copy

Attest: Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, APRIL 25, 2016

April 25, 2016 - COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$100,000 from the Cable Television Receipts Reserved Account to address soundproofing issues at Town Hall; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: April 25, 2016

Article 7. The Town voted to appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$100,000 (One hundred thousand) from the Cable Television Receipts Reserved Account to address soundproofing issues at Town Hall.

Hand Vote
Unanimous
Adopted

A True Copy:

Attest: Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, APRIL 25, 2016

April 25, 2016 - COPY OF ARTICLE ON WARRANT

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$100,000 to fund a

portion of its share of the assessment of the Pentucket Regional School District Budget for the Fiscal Year 2017, contingent upon the successful passage of a levy limit override question in the amount of \$100,000 on May 2, 2016, under Mass General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE - April 25, 2016

Article 8. The Town voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$100,000 (One hundred thousand) to fund a portion of its share of the assessment of the Pentucket Regional School District Budget for the Fiscal Year 2017, contingent upon the successful passage of a levy limit override question in the amount of \$100,000 on May 2, 2016, under Mass. General law Chapter 59, Section 21C

Hand Vote

Yes 85

No 12

Adopted

A True Copy:

Attest: Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, APRIL 25, 2016

April 25, 2016 - COPY OF THE ARTICLE ON WARRANT

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the balance in the amount of \$33,277, of the funds authorized by Article 8 of the Special Town Meeting on April 28, 2014, the remediation of flooring at the Sweetsir Elementary School, to replace flooring tiles at the Donaghue Elementary School; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: April 25, 2016

Article 9. The Town voted to transfer the balance in the amount of \$33,277 (Thirty three thousand two hundred seventy seven), of the funds authorized by Article 8 of the Special Town Meeting on April 28, 2014, the remediation of flooring at the Sweetsir Elementary School, to replace flooring tiles at the Donaghue Elementary School.

Hand Vote: Unanimous

Adopted

A True Copy

OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

2 School Street, Town Hall

Merrimac, MA 01860

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, OCTOBER 17, 2016 COPY OF ARTICLE WARRANT

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1 of the April 25, 2016 Annual Town Meeting, Omnibus Budget, in the amount of \$ 47,905 and amend the following lines:

Line #2	Selectmen's Expense	\$ 4,200
Line #41	Fire Department Salaries	\$ 3,200
Line #49	Emergency Management Salaries	\$505
line # 60	Essex North Tuition.....	\$40,000

;or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: OCTOBER 17, 2016

Article 1: The Town voted to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 1 of the April 25, 2016 Annual Town Meeting, Omnibus Budget, in the amount of \$ 35,905 and amend the following lines:

Line #2.....	Selectmen's Expense	\$ 4,200
Line #41.....	Fire Department Salaries	\$ 3,200
line #49.....	Emergency Management Salaries	\$505
line #60.....	Essex North Tuition	\$28,000

Hand Vote: Unanimous
Motion Carried

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Office of the Town Clerk
2 School Street, Town Hall, Merrimac, MA 01860

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, OCTOBER 17, 2016 COPY OF ARTICLE WARRANT

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 2 of the April 25, 2016 Annual Town Meeting, Wastewater Budget, in the amount of \$ 75,000 and amend the following lines:

Expenses:.....\$75,000
And that \$ 75,000 be raised by Departmental Receipts.

;or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: OCTOBER 17, 2016

Article 2: The Town voted to increase the amount raised and appropriated in Article 2 of the April 25, 2016 Annual Town Meeting, Wastewater Budget, in the amount of \$ 75,000 and amend the following lines:

Expenses:.....\$75,000
And that \$ 75,000 be raised by Departmental Receipts.

Hand Vote
Yes 62
No 3

Motion Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Office of the Town Clerk
2 School Street, Town Hall, Merrimac, MA 01860

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, OCTOBER 17, 2016 COPY OF ARTICLE WARRANT

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Wastewater Capital a sum of money in the amount of \$60,000 to purchase new water/wastewater meters; or take any other action relative thereto .

COPY OF THE VOTE OCTOBER 17, 2016

Article 3: The Town voted to appropriate from Wastewater Capital a sum of money in the amount of \$60,000 to purchase new water/wastewater meters.

Hand Vote: Unanimous
Motion Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Office of the Town Clerk
2 School Street, Town Hall, Merrimac, MA 01860

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, OCTOBER 17, 2016 COPY OF ARTICLE WARRANT

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money in the amount of \$1,500,000 for engineering costs to include bidding for the renovation of the current Police, Fire and DPW building at 16 E. Main St. and new construction of a Police and DPW Complex at a suitable location; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing by the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, the amount of \$1,500,000 under M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 7 (21), or any other enabling authority, or otherwise: or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE OCTOBER 17, 2016

Article 4: The Town voted to table Article 4 .

2/3 vote required
2/3 vote required Yes 65
No 1
Motion Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Office of the Town Clerk
2 School Street, Town Hall, Merrimac, MA 01860

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, OCTOBER 17, 2016 COPY OF ARTICLE WARRANT

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire for general municipal purposes, by gift, approximately nine (9) acres of the parcel of land located at 106 West Main Street, containing thirty-five (35) acres, more or less, and shown on a plan recorded with the Essex South District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 96, Page 41, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems appropriate; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE OCTOBER 17, 2016

Article 5: The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire for general municipal purposes, by gift, approximately nine (9) acres of the parcel of land located at 106 West Main Street, containing thirty-five (35) acres, more or less, and shown on a plan recorded with the Essex South District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 96, Page 41, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems appropriate.

Hand Vote

Yes 60

No 5

Motion Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Office of the Town Clerk

2 School Street, Town Hall, Merrimac, MA 01860

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, OCTOBER 17, 2016 COPY OF ARTICLE WARRANT

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept a deed in lieu of foreclosure for a parcel of land located on Locust Street as shown on Assessors Map 25, Block 1, Lot 2 and assessed to Arthur D. & Barbara Stewart, as authorized by MGL Chapter 60, Section 77C; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE: OCTOBER 17, 2016

Article 6: The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept a deed in lieu of foreclosure for a parcel of land located on Locust Street as shown on Assessors Map 25, Block 1, Lot 2 and assessed to Arthur D. & Barbara Stewart, as authorized by MGL Chapter 60, Section 77C

2/3 vote required

2/3 vote required Unanimous Motion Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Office of the Town Clerk

2 School Street, Town Hall, Merrimac, MA 01860

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, OCTOBER 17, 2016 COPY OF ARTICLE WARRANT

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the remaining balance of \$2,250 from Article 9 of the Special Town Meeting on October 17, 2011, Alternative Energy By-Law Consulting, to be used for consulting for zoning changes to the Rural Highway District; or take any other action relative thereto.

COPY OF THE VOTE OCTOBER 17, 2016

Article 7: The Town voted to transfer the remaining balance of \$2,250 from Article 9 of the Special Town Meeting on October 17, 2011, Alternative Energy By-law Consulting, to be used for consulting for zoning changes to the Rural Highway District; or take any other action relative thereto.

Hand Vote Unanimous

Motion Adopted

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: Office of the Town Clerk

2 School Street, Town Hall, Merrimac, MA 01860

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